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## POLL RESULTS

Do you support the \$10 fee being charged campers who will set up tents in public lands along the Liberation Day parade route?

Yes 104

No 88

No opinion 8

Sunday, July 4, 2010

## INSIDE



### LibDay Queen

Fifteen-year-old Josifynn Vivian "Peachy" Quitugua was crowned 2010 Liberation Queen.

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### ARC Turns 21

Aqua Resort Club celebrates 21 years of island-style hospitality.

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### Youth Camp

64 youngsters participate in the Army Reserve Enrichment Camp.

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CEC eyes 18K voters, more initiatives in November. **PAGE 3**  
Man gets 6-month prison term for accident that killed one. **PAGE 7**

## 'Learn of role history plays in the lives of today's youth'

By CLARISSA V. DAVID  
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REPORTER

After the revelry brought about by the Liberation Day parade yesterday, community members trooped to the carnival grounds for the Liberation Day ceremony that centered on "Celebrating Youth, the Leaders of Tomorrow."

In his opening remarks, Saipan Mayor Donald Flores said Liberation Day is a celebration of "64 years of our freedom from occupation and oppression."

See **LEARN** on Page 4

## Pacific Flowers wins Best Float award

By MONETH G. DEPOSA  
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REPORTER

The Pacific Flowers Dance Group emerged as the big winner in this year's Liberation Day Best Float competition, receiving a \$1,500 cash prize during yesterday's celebration.

Its float, made of locally-grown plants and flowers, bested four other entries and garnered the highest points in all criteria, which include relevance to the theme, originality, workman-

See **PACIFIC** on Page 4

## Lack of funds fails to dampen youth-themed LibDay parade



Seventh Day Adventist Pathfinder Club members show their patriotism with their flag-decorated bike and scooter during yesterday's Liberation Day parade.

ROSELYN MONROYO

See more photos on **Page 14 and 15**

By CLARISSA V. DAVID  
clarissa\_david@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Save for a brief shower a few hours before the festivities began, the skies swiftly cleared up and gave way yesterday to the intense heat of the sun as thousands of spectators waited for the start of the much anticipated Fourth of July parade lineup.

See **LIBDAY** on **Page 4**

◀ The Pacific Flowers Dance Group emerged as the big winner in this year's Liberation Day Best Float competition.  
ROSELYN MONROYO



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CLARISSA DAVID

Office on Aging director Rose Mondala, Man'amko Council president Felix Flawau and treasurer Terry Sorroza accept the \$500 donation by the Harley-Davidson Owners Group Marianas Chapter. Representing the group is Guam Harley-Davidson owner Bill Neilsen, fifth left.

## Harley-Davidson owners donate \$500 to man'amko

By CLARISSA V. DAVID  
clarissa\_david@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The Harley-Davidson Owners Group Marianas Chapter was on Saipan Friday to take part in the Liberation Day festivities and donate \$500 to the man'amko.

An international non-profit organization with over 4,000 chapters all over the world, the Harley-Davidson Owners Group is composed of members who own and love to ride these costly bikes. The group gives monetary donations to various civic organizations through their fundraising activities.

The Guam Harley-Davidson, the only authorized Harley-Davidson dealer in the Marianas, sponsors the Harley-Davidson Owners Group Marianas Chapter, according to owner Bill Neilsen.

Neilsen said the Marianas Chapter consists of 25 members and 15 Harley-Davidson bikes.

In the past, the group used to come to Saipan around the time of Liberation Day to participate in the Liberation Day

celebrations and donate to the man'amko, according to Neilsen. But in the last four years, the group donated their money to Palau.

Neilsen said they're happy to be back on Saipan, which he said has always been a "fun" place.

Neilsen and Marianas Chapter treasurer Kathy Leon Guerrero handed the \$500 check to Office on Aging director Rose Mondala, Man'amko Council president Felix Sablan Flawau, and Man'amko Council treasurer Terry Sorroza.

Also present during the donation were some members of Matua Riders, who regularly invite the Marianas Chapter to join them in the Fourth of July parade.

Matua Riders vice president Vince Lizama said "it's Christmas in July" for the man'amko because of the donation and challenged his colleagues to beat the \$500 donation of the Marianas Chapter.

Flawau thanked the Marianas Chapter for their donation. "It will go a long way," he added.

## Zoning-Torres spat heats up

By CLARISSA V. DAVID  
clarissa\_david@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The war of words between the Commonwealth Zoning Board and Rep. Stanley T. Torres continue to heat up in an exchange of correspondence centering on House Local Bill 17-2, D2, now Saipan Local Law 17-2.

On June 18, the board wrote a letter addressed to Gov. Benigno R. Fitial to oppose HLB 17-2, D2. However, then acting Gov. Eloy S. Inos signed it into law on June 17.

In a letter dated July 1, the board maintained that they were not told about Torres' floor amendments to the bill, rezoning certain portions of Tanapag, I-Denni, Chalan Kiya, and Oleai, during the Saipan and North-

ern Islands Legislative Delegation session on May 28.

"Without advance notification of the amendments, I could not speak on behalf of the board, as I was only given a copy of it during the...session and there was inadequate time to consult with the board," read the letter signed by board chair Herminia M. Fusco.

Fusco also wrote that their allegation about Torres' conflict of interest is valid, based on the Analysis of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The analysis explains the definition of "financial interest" in Article II Section 15 of the Constitution, which states that "a financial interest means a possi-

See ZONING on Page 4

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# CEC eyes 18K voters, more initiatives in Nov.

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**  
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REPORTER

From just over 16,000 voters in the 2009 general election, the Commonwealth Election Commission anticipates a significant jump in the number, eyeing more than 18,000 voters in the Novem-

ber poll and expecting more initiatives on the ballot this time.

CEC executive director Robert Guerrero said the projected increase in voters' count is a result of new registrants, while the unusual number of initiatives on the ballot is due to the pending initiatives in both legislative

chambers to date.

Guerrero disclosed that two initiatives have already been transmitted to the commission. However, these have not been certified yet until after the deadline of the petition for nomination on Aug. 4.

These initiatives include one

that authorizes the Department of Public Lands to reserve up to 20 percent of its operational expense for land compensation payments, or House Legislative Initiative 16-18, and House Legislative Initiative 16-13, which prohibits any increase in retirement benefits until all government obligations to the NMI Retirement Fund have been satisfied or the system is fully funded. These two initiatives were passed in October 2009.

Guerrero admitted that due to the anticipated number of initiatives this year, CEC will need more funds to complete the public education for these measures as required by law.

The Election Commission chief revealed that a regular election, without any initiative on the ballot, costs an estimated \$110,000.

Assuming that only House Legislative Initiatives 16-3 and 16-18 are approved for placement on the ballot, CEC would need about \$150,000 for the entire election.

"But since we're anticipating more than two initiatives [pending the others at the Legislature], we may request for \$250,000, which will include the public education for these initiatives," Guerrero told *Saipan Tribune*.

Public education must be conducted 90 days prior to the election.

To date, CEC has yet to receive any funding for election prepara-

tion. Assessment for the ballot printing would be done after the certification of nominations.

Once certification for nomination is completed in August, Guerrero said the CEC has to get the needed budget to start preparing for the election.

Guerrero said the commission is also awaiting the governor's approval of House Bill 17-66, which proposes to realign CNMI election law with federal requirements.

The election for NMI delegate is slated for Nov. 2. Four individuals are expected to file petitions of candidacy, including Republican Party candidate Juan N. Babauta; Covenant Party bet Joseph Camacho; Democratic Party candidate Jesus Borja; and incumbent Gregorio Sablan.

## DPS settles attorney's fees, court costs in woman's conspiracy suit

The Department of Public Safety has agreed to settle the claim for attorney's fees and court costs filed by a Korean woman who had accused some police officers of conspiring to destroy evidence to prevent the prosecution of a drunk motorist.

DPS, Police Sgt. Anthony Macaranas, Police Officer Jarrod Manglona, and former police officer Michael Langdon, through their counsel, reached an agreement with Ae Ja Elliot Park relating to attorney's fees and court costs.

U.S. District Court for the NMI visiting judge William Alsop on Friday approved the settlement and dismissed the lawsuit with finality.

According to court documents filed in the U.S. District Court for the NMI, DPS, Macaranas, Manglona, and Langdon agreed to settle Park's attorney's fees and court costs for a confidential amount.

"The first payment shall be due within 30 calendar days of the execution of this stipulation. The second payment shall be due within 60 calendar days of the execution of this stipulation," according to the documents signed by Park's counsel and the defendants' counsel, Braddock Huesman.

The parties agreed that if defendants fail to make a timely payment, the outstanding balance shall accrue a 9 percent interest rate, provided the defendants are given five working days to cure any default.

In February 2010, the court was informed that Park and DPS, Macaranas, Manglona, and Langdon, had reached a settlement, except for Park's claim for attorney's fees and costs.

Then federal court judge Alex R. Munson accepted the settlement and dismissed the case, but retained jurisdiction to decide the attorney's fees and costs.

The terms and conditions of the settlement were kept confidential.

According to documents, Park and Norbert Duenas Babauta were involved in a head-on collision on 16 Highway in Papago on Feb. 12, 2006. Both were taken to the hospital.

Park asserted that Babauta was drunk at the time of the accident, but that the police officers did not investigate his intoxication because Babauta is local. (*Ferdie de la Torre*)

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## IN SEXUAL HARASSMENT SUIT AGAINST PRINCIPAL

## Ninth Circuit allows guard to challenge AG certification

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**  
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REPORTER

The U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit has vacated the federal court's decision that denied Hopwood Junior High's principal Jonas Barcinas' motion to substitute the CNMI instead of himself as a defendant in a security guard's sexual harassment lawsuit.

The Ninth Circuit, however, remanded Homayan Kabir's lawsuit to the U.S. District Court for the NMI, giving Kabir the opportunity to chal-

lenge the CNMI Attorney General's certification that Barcinas was acting within the scope of his employment—through an evidentiary hearing.

"The reasoning of the CNMI Supreme Court is self-explanatory and dispositive," according to the Ninth Circuit judges in an order issued Friday.

In 2007, Kabir filed the sexual harassment lawsuit against then Dandan Elementary School principal Barcinas and the Public School System.

Kabir was employed as security

guard at Dandan Elementary School from April to October 2005 and again from July to October 2006.

According to the complaint, Barcinas sexually harassed Kabir by making repeated sexual advances on him.

Barcinas told *Saipan Tribune* later that Kabir was only making up the story and that the guard should apologize to him.

Barcinas, through the Office of the Attorney General, then moved to substitute the CNMI as the sole defendant in Kabir claim.

Barcinas argued that the Commonwealth Employees Liability Reform and Tort Compensation Act of 2006 provides for the automatic dismissal of government employees from suits against them for acts committed within the scope of their employment.

Barcinas submitted in court a declaration from the CNMI AG certifying that "Barcinas was acting within the scope of his employment as principal at the time of the alleged incident giving rise to the claims of plaintiff in this action."

Later, Barcinas submitted a second declaration from the AG certifying that "the investigation by my office of these alleged events concluded that the

events did not in fact occur, and that was, and is, the basis for the [original] certification."

Barcinas's lawyer also suggested that after the CNMI substituted in, it would file a motion to dismiss on the basis of sovereign immunity.

The federal court denied Barcinas' motion to substitute. The court ruled that the motion and subsequent dismissal would "frustrate the very essence of what the law is about."

The district court said CELRTCA does not apply to suits against Commonwealth employees for intentional misconduct because the Government Liability Act provides for governmental immunity for such conduct.

## LIBDAY

From Page 1

As early as 7am yesterday, members of the community settled into their ideal spots along Beach Road—between National Office Supply and the Liberation Day grounds across Kristo Rai church—where they can take a closer look at the 47 marching units and six floats that participated in the Liberation Day parade.

At 10:30 am, the parade officially kicked off, with the Department of Public Safety's four Color guards and 38 police cadets and the JROTC units of various high schools as frontrunners.

Convoys of dignitaries and guests followed, including those of Gov. Benigno R. Fitial, Lt. Gov. Eloy S. Inos, Saipan Mayor Donald Flores, Overall Liberation chair Jonas M. Barcinas, Tinian Mayor Ramon Dela Cruz, and

keynote speaker Captain and Mrs. Alan Moore.

Also among the prominent guests were the 2010 Liberation Day grand marshals: Victorino Cepeda of Saipan, Don Farrell of Tinian, Tomas Mendiola of Rota, and Frank Shiro of the Northern Islands.

With its theme "Celebrating Youth, the Leaders of Tomorrow," the 2010 Liberation Day parade featured different youth organizations, sports teams and government agencies that nurture the future leaders of the CNMI.

Holding their "Music is Life" streamer, the 50-piece Pride of the Pacific Marching Alliance—composed of 35 students from Saipan Southern High School and 15 from Guam High School—performed marching tunes for parade onlookers.

Other youth-oriented groups that participated in the parade were Matansa, MP United and Tan Holdings foot-

ball teams; Rollers Club basketball team; Northern Marianas Badminton Association; the CNMI Boy Scouts; Joeten Kiyu-Public Library; American Red Cross Youth Club members; and the Saipan Awaodori Team.

Also part of the Liberation Day spectacle were different government agencies, including DPS Fire Search and Rescue Unit, Fire Tanker, and Fire Command Vehicle; the Brown Tree Snake Section of the Division of Fish and Wildlife; the Department of Public Health and their "Kung-Flu Fighter" campaign; Commonwealth Ports Authority and their K-9 Explosives and X-ray Units; Division of Youth Services' Summer Youth Leadership Camp; and the Coastal Resources Management with their fish mascot that advocates the protection of marine environment.

The Liberation Day parade also showcased the talents of different ethnic groups and government agencies as

well as the diversity of the CNMI community.

Some 100 members of the Saipan Falun Dafa Association performed the *Star Spangled Banner*, *America the Beautiful*, *Ode to Joy*, and traditional Chinese music entertainment.

The Korean Community of Saipan, which has been participating in the Liberation festivities since 1994, had members wearing traditional Korean costumes, performing Samulnori, and presenting Korean ballet, traditional and modern dance performances.

Showing the symbol of Shanghai Expo 2010, some 80 members of the Chinese Association also performed dance numbers, including the renowned dragon dance.

The Japanese Society of the Northern Mariana Islands was joined by the Domatsuri group from Nagoya in performing the customary festival ceremony called Mikoshi and the Tokyo Ondo traditional dancing for women.

Students of the Rose Dance School and the Wise Women Village Project did the L.A. walk performance for the parade crowd. Apprentices at Uncle Ben's Music and Dance Studio also presented dance numbers.

Other marching units that took part in the parade were the Saipan Neighborhood Watch, IT&E which sponsored sports teams and other parade participants, Team Rectify Car Club, Star ATV Corporation, Matua Riders and the Guam Harley-Davidson Owners Group, and the Tau Gamma Phi Sigma.

The parade concluded with the 2010 Liberation Queen and Royal Court's float and the five floats vying for the Best in Float competition. These floats were the DYS of the Department of

Community and Cultural Affairs, Pacific Flowers Dance Group, United Filipino Organization, Public School System; and the Little Mr. & Ms. Blue Marlin Royal Court of Kagman Elementary School.

Parade spectators were not disappointment with this year's showing.

Annie Flores of San Vicente village believes that this year's parade had more participants. She said the Liberation Day committee had done a great job on the Liberation Day celebration despite the hard economic situation facing the CNMI and the temporary permit fee imposed by the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

Flores, who watched the parade with her five children and nine grandchildren, said her whole family makes it a point to come and enjoy the parade every year.

She added that the Liberation Day is an occasion that brings together all members of the community, young and old.

Despite the early downpour and the scorching midday heat, Clarissa Agulto of Garapan brought her four kids and husband to have fun watching the parade. She said she had been attending the annual celebration ever since she can remember.

Agulto's 7-year-old daughter Johnalyn, who loved the Liberation Queen's float the best, said she looks forward to next year's parade.

Although this year's Liberation Day committee had to deal with budget issues, Barcinas said the event was a success because "the whole community arrived and joined" in the festivities.

The Liberation Day celebration is an annual event that commemorates the liberation of Camp Susupe in 1946.

## PACIFIC

From Page 1

ship, animation and special effects, and overall presentation.

Mona Mengloi, the group's instructor, said she was surprised and elated upon learning the competition result.

The dance troupe, which was formed only last year, is composed of young dancers from all over the Pacific islands. This was its first time to join the competition.

Besides the colorful presentation of various locally-grown flowers such as plumeria, flame tree, ylang-ylang, and orchids, the float also depicted the diverse culture of the organization, with children from different Pacific islands. Its theme was

"Celebrating our youths, our leaders of tomorrow."

Mengloi said their entry was also a collaborative effort of members with various ethnicities who helped in the decoration. The prize money, she said, will be used to buy costumes for its Polynesian dancers, who will be seen in community events and celebrations.

Pacific Flowers has 51 members, with ages ranging from 3 years old and above.

Adjudged second best float was the Public School System entry, which showcased the 20 public schools on three islands and their children. The float, according to PSS, showcased the unity of schools, which is key to the CNMI youth's success. PSS went home with a \$1,000 cash prize.

Hailed as the third best float was the

entry of Kagman Elementary School and its royal court members. Decorated with native plants and flowers, special guests were offered locally grown fruits by royal court members. It went home with a \$500 prize.

Other float participants were the Division of Youth Services; the United Filipino Organization, which showcased the effective leadership skills of the CNMI youth and the cultural bond that ties the CNMI altogether; and the traditional non-competitive float of the Liberation Day Royal Court.

This year's float competition was judged by a three-member team composed of Joe Limes, Ivan Blanco, and Mark Rabauliman.

The float committee was chaired by Donald Crisostomo.

## LEARN

From Page 1

Flores urged everybody to keep in mind what the past and present generations have done for the development of the CNMI.

He asked their support in preparing today's youth for the challenges they will encounter in the years ahead. "We need to continue to give them our utmost undivided love, untiring support and unwavering attention, in order to ensure that they will grow up healthy and undoubtedly succeed in life to become better future leaders of our Commonwealth."

U.S. Navy Capt. Alan Moore, keynote speaker of 2010 Liberation Day, said the youth of the CNMI should realize the role played by history in their lives. "It is important they understand where they came from and the struggles that the island and its people

endured."

In his speech, Moore talked a little about the war and the victims of the Battle of Saipan who went through hardships yet "demonstrated sheer bravery to face an unknown future."

Moore also acknowledged the "thousands of heroes—including Saipan's sons and daughters," whose bravery and heroism play a role in the fight against terrorism that is comparable to the war fought by the people of Saipan 60 years ago.

"It is a battle for humanity, for the right of all people—not just Americans—to live in a world free of terror and fear," said Moore.

Moore reminded his audience to pay tribute to the men and women who sacrificed their lives as Liberation Day is the commemoration of the liberation of Saipan.

He emphasized to the youth that remembering their history is key to building their character. "Remember to honor

all those who came before you by never forgetting the struggles they endured. Take advantage of all the opportunities they have provided for you and stand prepared as future leaders to lead your home to greater prosperity while never forgetting your history and heritage.

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial, in his closing remarks, reiterated the need to learn from the past to cultivate a prosperous future.

Fitial said the benefits that people enjoy at present are a result of "the bravery and valor of those who sacrificed their lives so you and I could enjoy freedom, recovery and prosperity in the islands we are proud to call our own."

Fitial added that the celebration of Liberation day should be a tribute to the members and veterans of the Armed Forces and all "the men and women who continue to risk their lives for the good of our country. Truly, we have lost far too many, but their sacrifices shall never be forgotten."

## ZONING

From Page 2

bility that the legislator or any member of his family may have a monetary gain or loss as a result of the enactment or enforcement of a bill."

Through the letter, the board also responded to Torres' statement that a Zoning Office staff member had an interest on a rezoned area on Map 9 of the zoning maps. Fusco said that the rezone was proposed by former Zoning administrator Steve Tilley. She also said it was duly reviewed and recommended by the board and not by the staff member referred to by Torres.

Fusco said the board recognizes the "urgent need to enforce the law" and recommend "possible amendments to address issues not addressed in the law," adding that they are still open to receive recommendations from the delegation and the general public.

The board, however, deferred a re-

sponse to Torres' proposal to suspend the Saipan Zoning Law of 2008 for five years.

Torres responded to the board with a letter also dated July 1.

In his letter, Torres said he finds Fusco's explanation of not being able to give comments during the May 28 session "very troubling."

"You had an ample amount of time to state your concerns, but you failed to request for more time to study the bill or for a postponement, which would have been granted," Torres said in his letter.

Torres argued that he has no financial interest in the Servino business enterprise which is covered by the stipulation in the law that allows reimbursement of penalties charged to businesses by the board.

Torres also asked the board to look into the comment of businessman Roman Blanco Matsumoto. According to Torres, Matsumoto told him on the phone about the "bad treatment" he received from the Zoning Office.



## Peachy Quitugua is crowned 2010 Liberation Queen

By **CLARISSA V. DAVID**  
clarissa\_david@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Fifteen-year-old Josifynn Vivian "Peachy" Quitugua was crowned 2010 Liberation Queen Friday night at the Liberation grounds.

Quitugua bested nine other candidates from Saipan, Tinian, Rota, and the Northern Islands in selling the most number of tickets for the Liberation Queen contest.

An incoming sophomore at Mari-

anas High School, Quitugua is also a member of the Te'ivi Maori Polynesian dance group.

Quitugua's sponsors are McDonald's Saipan and Pena House boutique.

This year's Royal Princess is Kagman High School sophomore Rayna Anabeth Deleon Guerrero Chong.

Fifteen-year-old Chong is sponsored by Dr. Edgar Tudor and Dr. Susan Fishman-Tudor.

Rota's Berlani Tayleen Blas Apatang came in 1st runner up. Angela

Bermudes Aldan, who was sponsored by the Northern Islands Mayor's Office won 2nd runner up. Marianas High School graduate Zelma Alyssa Dela Cruz Santos is 3rd runner up.

Other members of the Royal Court were Yuri Marie Evarrola Cepeda, 1st Princess; Marie Kastel Santos Tambiga, 2nd Princess; Sashana Igitol Atalig, 3rd Princess; Khrystine Atalig, 4th Princess; and Marla Helbert, 5th Princess.

Brina Marie Mafnas Reyes was awarded this year's Liberation Day

Sweetheart.

Also present during the coronation night were the 2009 Liberation Royal Court, headed by 2009 Liberation Queen Isabel Rosa Maria Castro Muna and 2009 Royal Princess Kayla Sablan.

Overall Liberation Committee chairp Jonas M. Barcinas acknowledged the hard work and sacrifices made by the 10 candidates for Liberation Queen, many of whom "went from house to house, business to business, family to family to ask for support."

CLARISSA V. DAVID  
2010 Liberation Queen Josifynn Vivian "Peachy" Quitugua and Royal Princess Rayna Anabeth Deleon Guerrero Chong are joined by their Royal Court, Saipan Mayor Donald Flores, Overall Liberation Committee chair Jonas Barcinas, Liberation Queen committee members, and the Saipan Southern High School JROTC unit during the coronation night Friday at the carnival grounds.

In the end, it all paid off, Barcinas said.

Saipan Mayor Donald Flores said the coronation night is a celebration of "the beauty, grace, wisdom, and strength of ten young ladies."

Flores also congratulated the young women for their hard work and efforts and for representing their islands well.

Flores challenged the 2010 Liberation Royal Court to become exemplars of excellence, leadership, good citizenship and character.



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## ADVERTISING FEATURE: AQUA RESORT CLUB

# 21 years of island-style hospitality



CLARISSA V. DAVID

The dedicated management of Aqua Resort Club from left, Hiroki K. Sugie, general manager; Peding C. Sablan, director F&B Sales, Local & Corporate Market; Sachiko N. Mafnas, director of Operation/Front Office Manager; Yae Santos, PR Manager/Sales manager; Robert B. Marmito, Beverage manager.

By CLARISSA V. DAVID  
clarissa\_david@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

On the sun-drenched shores of this mini island paradise in the Pacific, a few minutes away from the hustle and bustle of tourist hotspots, lies a premier resort hotel that rewards guests with an idyllic tropical landscape.

The paradise posh that is Aqua Resort Club assures only the very best accommodations for tourists wanting to have the ultimate Saipan travel experience. Ideally situated in Achugao Beach, Aqua Resort Club offers lush environs, well-appointed guestrooms, modest swimming pools, a fitness center, gift shop, café, and delightful restaurants.

For over two decades now, Aqua Resort Club prides itself on its signature island-style hospitality. "Hospitality is most important [to us]," said Sachiko Mafnas, director of Operation/Front Office manager of the hotel.

According to Mafnas, they always ensure that all their employees understand the value of giving great service to their valued patrons.

When she interviews applicants who want to be a part of the team, Mafnas said she always asks them if they share the same value. They want people who provide genuine service with a smile. "We need to know that [their] service comes from the heart. If you don't want it, better not to join us."

Aqua Resort Club's initial niche market during Saipan's tourism boom was vacationers from all over Japan. But the island of Saipan was adversely affected when Japan Airlines

stopped servicing commuters to Saipan and Northwest Airlines also discontinued some of its flights.

With the rise and fall of Saipan's tourism industry, Mafnas said their deluxe resort only receive a handful of Japanese, Korean, Chinese and Russian guests. While Mafnas admits that they've seen better days, she also said that it is during these difficult times that they rely on each other to overcome this hurdle. "We get to team-work to survive this hardship."

As they celebrate their 21 years of service today, Aqua Resort Club puts its diligent personnel on the spotlight. Peding Sablan, F&B Sales director for Local & Corporate Market, said they want to express their gratitude to the tireless employees of the resort who have worked hard to keep the hotel alive through the years. "The success of the business is its employees."

Restaurant manager Ramon Awit disclosed that July 5 is solely for its 120 employees. Aqua Resort has planned a whole-day event for the staff to pay tribute and to show appreciation for them. Today, employees will participate in fun games such as sack race, beach volleyball, tug-of-war, and wheel barrow. An awarding ceremony for individual, group, and department winners and dinner await the employees at Rey Lounge, said Awit.

On its anniversary, Aqua Resort Club will also treat the public to special rates for its various amenities. From July 1 to 16, guests can avail of a standard deluxe room for only \$80 per night, plus 10-percent

tax. Accommodations include free breakfast for two and half-off for all rejuvenating spa treatments.

For ice cream lovers out there, Aqua Café also has the ongoing 20-percent discount promotion, making it the cheapest ice cream place on island, said Mafnas.

Health buffs are also encouraged to take advantage of discounted annual membership fees promo at Aqua Resort Club's Fitness Center. If you sign up anytime this July, you can avail of a monthly membership fee for only \$25.

Island gourmands can treat themselves to the scrumptious buffet at the Costa Terrace Restaurant, thanks to the 20-percent local discount as well as Aqua Resort's Quattro Campaign, which ends Aug. 30.

At 21, Aqua Resort Club has remained a force to be reckoned with. It distinguishes itself by providing a characteristic ambiance even to the most discerning travelers and savvy locals. "The atmosphere here at Aqua Resort is like a family. That's why we have regular customers who always come back," Mafnas said.

Mafnas extends gratitude to all Aqua Resort Club's clientele for their continued patronage to the hotel. She also thanks their suppliers for their invaluable support and for promoting the hotel to the community. "We really appreciate it," she said.

Mafnas guarantees that Aqua Resort Club's patrons can rest assured that they can continue to expect great service from them and experience the island-style hospitality that's a trademark of Aqua Resort.



*Happy 21st Anniversary*

From the management and staff of



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# Man gets 6-month prison term for car accident that killed one

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**  
ferdie\_delatorre@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The Superior Court on Friday imposed a six-month prison term on the driver of a pickup truck that caused a collision along a Dandan road last year, killing one of his passenger and injuring three others.

Associate Judge Ramona V. Manglona accepted Angel Mendiola Palacios' guilty plea to vehicular homicide and sentenced him to three years in prison, all suspended except for six months.

Manglona said there will be no parole for the 23-year-old Palacios, who was given credit for the two days he had already served in jail.

Palacios will begin serving his prison term on Aug. 2, 2010. After serving his sentence, Palacios will be placed on five years probation. He was required to pay a \$1,000 fine, and \$100 court costs, and to perform 100 hours of community service.

"No alcohol [during the probation]. It's a very significant change on your part," Manglona told the teary-eyed Palacios.

The judge also barred Palacios from going into bars while on probation.

The restitution hearing was set for Oct. 18, 2010 at 2:30pm.

Palacios and his lawyer, assistant public defender Richard Miller, agreed to plead guilty to vehicular homicide in exchange for the dismissal of the remaining charges: driving while under the influence of alcohol, reckless driving, and driving on right side of the highway.

The incident occurred in the early morning hours of April 1, 2009.

Palacios was with his friends Aniceto T. Taitano, Milton K. Minor, Calvin A. Fitia, and Doming Dela Cruz aboard a 1994 Toyota Hilux pickup truck.

They were heading south along Dandan's main road in front of Dandan Elementary School when Palacios lost control of the truck, swerved to the opposite lane, and slammed into an oncoming 2008 Mazda SUV being driven by Stephen P. Limes Jr.

At the impact, Taitano, Minor, and Dela Cruz were ejected from the truck's bed. Taitano died due to fractured skull and bleeding in the brain. Palacios and his other passengers were injured.

Limes, the driver of the SUV, was not injured.

Police later determined that Palacios' breath alcohol concentration at the time was at .130 percent, above the legal limit of .08.

Police concluded that Palacios triggered the crash by caus-

ing the truck to encroach on the opposite lane and collide with the SUV.

At the sentencing, Manglona said that Palacios' friends placed a lot of trust in him when they got on the truck. She said one of the passengers noticed that Palacios appeared to be drunk, but he still somehow chose to join the group—a decision that proved costly for one of the passengers, Taitano.

During the probationary period, Palacios will be required to conduct presentations to minors about consequences of driving while under the influence of alcohol.

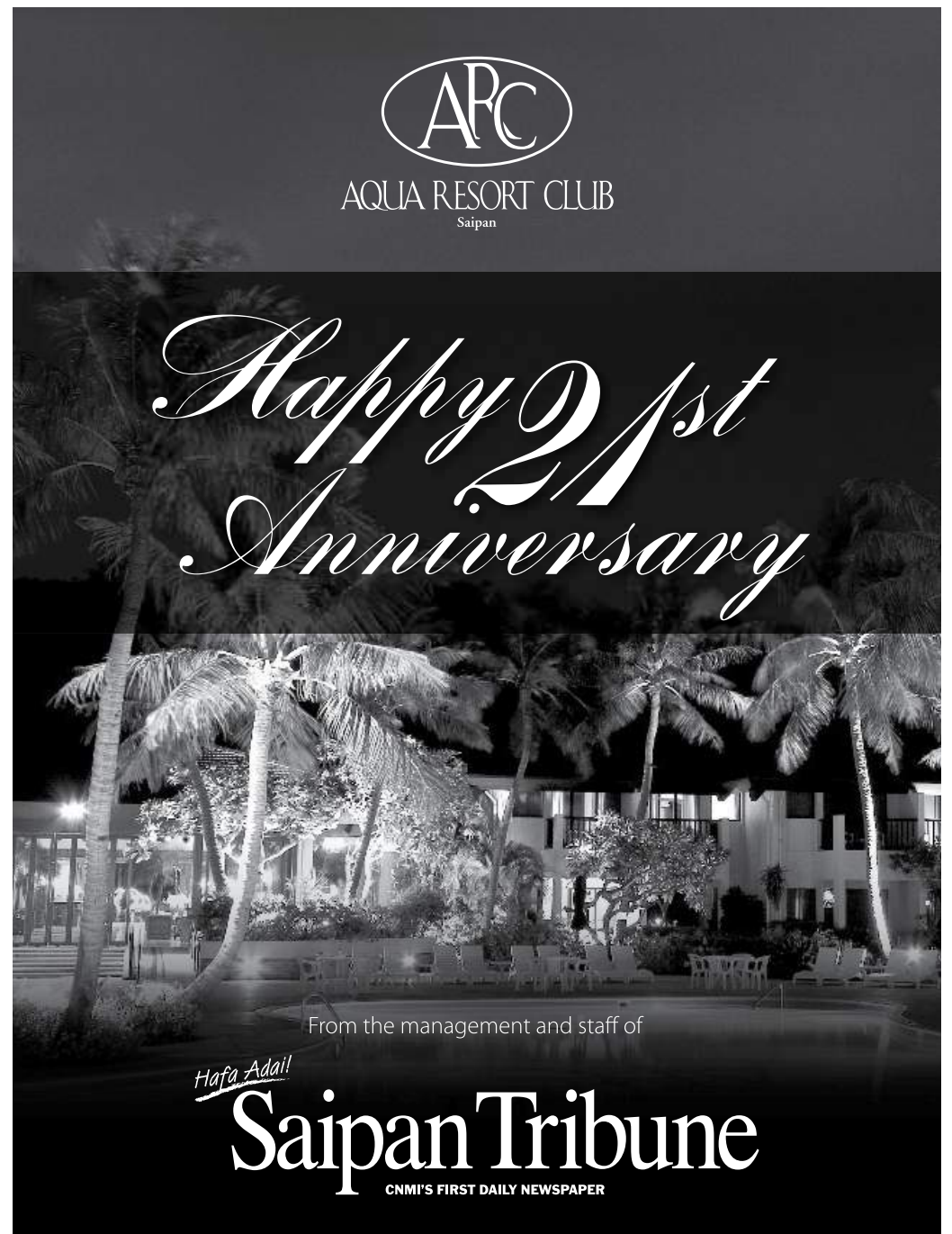
The judge noted that there are serious legal and criminal consequences of drinking and driving, especially when it involves severe injuries or death.

Manglona also pointed out that the victim's family was apparently informed and had accepted the terms of the sentence.

Manglona said she is hoping that once the defendant pays his dues he will come out of prison a productive member of the community.

Rep. Joseph M. Palacios, father of the defendant, was in the courtroom during the hearing.

Assistant attorney general Peter Priestly appeared for the government at the hearing.



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## UNDER SENATE PROPOSED BILL

# Fund counts 773 potential early retirees

» Anticipates  
\$20.3M direct  
impact yearly

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**  
moneth\_deposa@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The NMI Retirement Fund board of trustees has disclosed that there are 773 members of the pension program that are potentially eligible to retire earlier than expected if a pending legislation is passed and signed into law.

The passage of the bill would have an estimated direct impact of \$20.3 million every year, trustees said.

During Thursday's regular board meeting, the members reiterated their strong opposition to Senate Bill 17-27, which proposes to allow Class I members with at least 20 years of mem-

bership service to retire regardless of age, or early retirement without financial penalties.

The members said any increase in benefits will definitely harm the Fund's diminishing ability to continue paying its members.

"It gives members a false sense of security and is unworkable. It is unrealistic to believe that if all 773 members retire, their jobs will be left vacant," said trustee Francisco Rosario.

Fund chair Sixto Igisomar described the legislation as "really unfair" and hinted that the trustees will come up with a concrete action in the event the Legislature fails to consider the Fund's current situation. He did not elaborate on the kind of action they may take.

"We have to care for our pension members. We have to do something...and we will

come up with something. It's time to say 'this is enough, this bill is not fair,'" the chairman told the board.

Igisomar disclosed that the Fund is funded at just 40 percent at present—a serious situation that lawmakers must realize.

The members said that lawmakers, in their intent to provide increased benefits, failed to identify a dedicated source of new funding for the purpose, nor determine if the decision is fiscally sound.

Saipan Tribune learned that without an identified source of new money, increased benefits would only add to the Fund's unfunded liability, which is now at over \$520 million.

The trustees pointed out that the bill also appears to establish an entirely new class of retirees—Class III—who would

be paid retirement pensions directly by their former employer government departments or agencies.

"If the 'new source of funding' identified for this increased benefit is the current salary of the retiring employees, then there can be no allowance for the position vacated to be subsequently filled and certainly the member could only be allowed to retire with the consent of the employer, as the employer would be prevented from filling the position," the trustees position paper stated.

The trustees also described the legislation as nothing more than a shell game and asked the lawmakers to re-focus their attention on the magnitude of the problems facing the CNMI government and the Retirement Fund.

## Ancient history lecture on Tuesday evening

The NMI Council for the Humanities is inviting the public to attend a lecture on ancient Chamorro history and culture at the American Memorial Park on Tuesday, July 6, 2010 at 6pm.

Dr. James Bayman, a professor of anthropology at the University of Hawaii Manoa, will discuss the results of archaeological excavations undertaken at the traditional Chamorro village of Ritidian in northern Guam.

This research was completed over the course of three years during archaeological field schools run by the University of Hawaii and the University of Guam.

Bayman, who directed these field schools, will examine the impact of Spanish colonization on traditional Chamorro society based on the analysis of artifacts recovered from two adjacent latte buildings at Ritidian.

The presentation is a part of the council's Community Lecture Series. It is open to the public and free of charge.

For more information, call Council staff at 235-4785 or visit the Council's website [www.nmihumanities.org](http://www.nmihumanities.org). (PR)



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Dr. James Bayman, right, and students collect ancient artifacts.

## Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

July 5, 2000

### DPS acquires 20 new patrol cars

Twenty new patrol cars are now roaming around the streets of Saipan after the Office of Budget and Management gave the Department of Public Safety funding for the immediate purchase of the Cherokee vehicles. The acquisition of the new fleet of vehicles will result in a \$500,000 savings for DPS in three-year period, according to Clyde Norita, assistant chief of the Office for Special Services. For the past 10 years, DPS has been leasing its vehicles which was criticized by legislators as being too costly for the government in the long run. With the austerity measures implemented by the government, DPS was given funding for the purchase of at least 20 vehicles.

### CUC presses talks with Dynasty over hook-up

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. is wrapping up its discussion with the Tinian Dynasty Hotel and Casino on its impending hook-up with the island power following a deadline imposed by the Coastal Resources Management. CUC Board Chair Jesus T. Guerrero expressed concern that time is running out as the deadline next month nears without concrete agreement with the Dynasty. "We need to do that right away," he told CUC officials during a board meeting Monday. The hotel and casino, the biggest on Tinian, has yet to hook up with CUC's 10-megawatt power plant on the island due to failure to agree on the electricity rate. Dynasty has been asking for 11 cents per kilowatt/hour similar to the residential rate as it would be at par with the costs of generating its own power.

July 5, 2001

### A celebration of freedom

The Northern Marianas community yesterday celebrated the freedom their forefathers fought for in a battle that ended in 1946, when the gates of Camp Susupe were opened following the Battle of Saipan. Although this year's celebration did not generate as much participation compared to the previous Liberation Day parades, yesterday's event remains in line with the CNMI's goal to guard freedom and democracy. With this year's theme "Rediscovering Liberation: Celebrating Freedom", Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio led the parade that kicked off at 9am.

### Bill seeks to expand access to 911

The move to grant emergency access to subscribers of landline telephones who have been temporarily disconnected for nonpayment is shaping up at the House of Representatives, soon after a bill providing for such access hurdled first reading on Tuesday. The House Committee on Public Utilities, Transportation and Communications, to which House Bill 12-306 was referred to, said that the bill will provide a fair measure of consumer protection without putting undue burden on the affected providers. Rep. Rosiky F. Camacho, committee chairman, said his committee believes that local landline telephone providers should provide access to 911 services for 30 days to people whose services have been temporarily disconnected due to the nonpayment of their telephone bills.

July 5, 200

### PSS mapping out next steps

The Public School System vowed to focus on students' weak points as determined by results of a standards-based Reading assessment which tested over 1,800 students from the 4th, 8th and 11th grades last April 2002. PSS Acting Associate Commissioner Rita A. Sablan, head of the Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment, said that it is the intent of PSS to work in the areas of weakness to ensure that students perform at or above the baseline each year as the Reading tests are implemented. Highlights of the Reading test results indicated, among others, that while 50 percent of 4th graders understood story elements, the other half of the group had difficulty understanding them.

### A local counterpart of the FBI?

The House of Representatives has passed a measure that would establish the Commonwealth Bureau of Investigation within the Office of the Attorney General. House Bill 13-146 sailed through the lower chamber on first and final reading. It garnered a 17-0 vote. The proposed Commonwealth Bureau of Investigation would take over the functions and powers of the AG's Investigation Unit—a unit that the Attorney General created in 1992. Although the Unit investigates white-collar crimes, handles conflict cases from the Department of Public Safety, and helps the AGO with the prosecution of cases on behalf of the CNMI, it is a creature borne out of discretionary authority of the Attorney General.

# Happy 21<sup>st</sup> Anniversary

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MVA

The media entourage of China's Rayli-Leon magazine at the Palms Resort on June 21, 2010 during their location shoot in the Northern Mariana Islands last month. The magazine expects to feature the CNMI on 8 to 9 pages of its August/September 2010 issue at an estimated ad exposure value of \$150,000. Also pictured are representatives of Marianas Visitors Authority and Century Tours.

## Rayli-Leon mag samples the CNMI

A media entourage from up-and-coming Chinese fashion magazine *Rayli-Leon* spent three days on Saipan in June to gather information about this resort destination for their August/September 2010 issue.

Led by editor-in-chief Bai Cameron, the seven-member group arrived on June 19 and visited numerous visitor attractions during their visit before departing early on June 22.

The Marianas Visitors Author-


ity assisted the media tour with providing ground transportation for the island tour and other aid. Primary arrangements were made by Century Tours.

"While in the Northern Marianas, the crew focused on fashion and shopping opportunities," said MVA marketing manager Bruce Bateman. "Their itinerary also included an island tour of our lush jungles and historic sites plus a full day at the snorkeling

paradise of Managaha island. These provided scenic photo opportunities for the models they brought along."


*Rayli-Leon*, a self defined "fashion magazine empire" circulates to 560,000 readers, largely white collar males between the ages of 20 and 40. The magazine will feature 8-9 pages highlighting the Northern Marianas at an estimated ad exposure value of at least \$150,000. (MVA)

From the management and staff of




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# Celebrating the 21st Anniversary of



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# Opinion

Hafa Adai!

## Saipan Tribune

CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER  
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Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP 96950Jayvee L. Vallejera EDITOR  
Mark Rabago ASSISTANT EDITOR

MEMBER

AP The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

## Independence Day perspectives through history and culture

By CHRIS VOGNAR  
THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS

It's time for fireworks, parades, picnics, coolers of beer and millions of miniature flags fluttering in small hands. These are the most obvious symbols of July Fourth, the visual and gastrointestinal commemorations of America's birth.

But the Fourth also gives cause to consider some less ceremonial symbols—the words, stories and images we use to remind us what the holiday represents. Appropriately enough for a country that prides itself in the best of times on diversity of opinion and belief, these cultural works defy categorization. They paint a picture with room for enchantment, disillusion and even the wounds inflicted by ideals unmet.

The Fourth is a communal holiday, but the feelings it evokes are extremely personal. One of the most wrenching examinations of the day's meaning took place in 1852, 10 years before the Emancipation Proclamation, when escaped slave and master orator Frederick Douglass was invited to give an address on July 5 in Corinthian Hall in Rochester, N.Y. It's hard to fathom what his hosts were thinking, assigning the topic of national independence to a man who dedicated his life to freeing his people from slavery in his native land.

The resulting speech, "The Meaning of July Fourth for the Negro," is now considered one of Douglass' finest works, an evisceration of moral and legal hypocrisy penned by a man who fought his share of both.

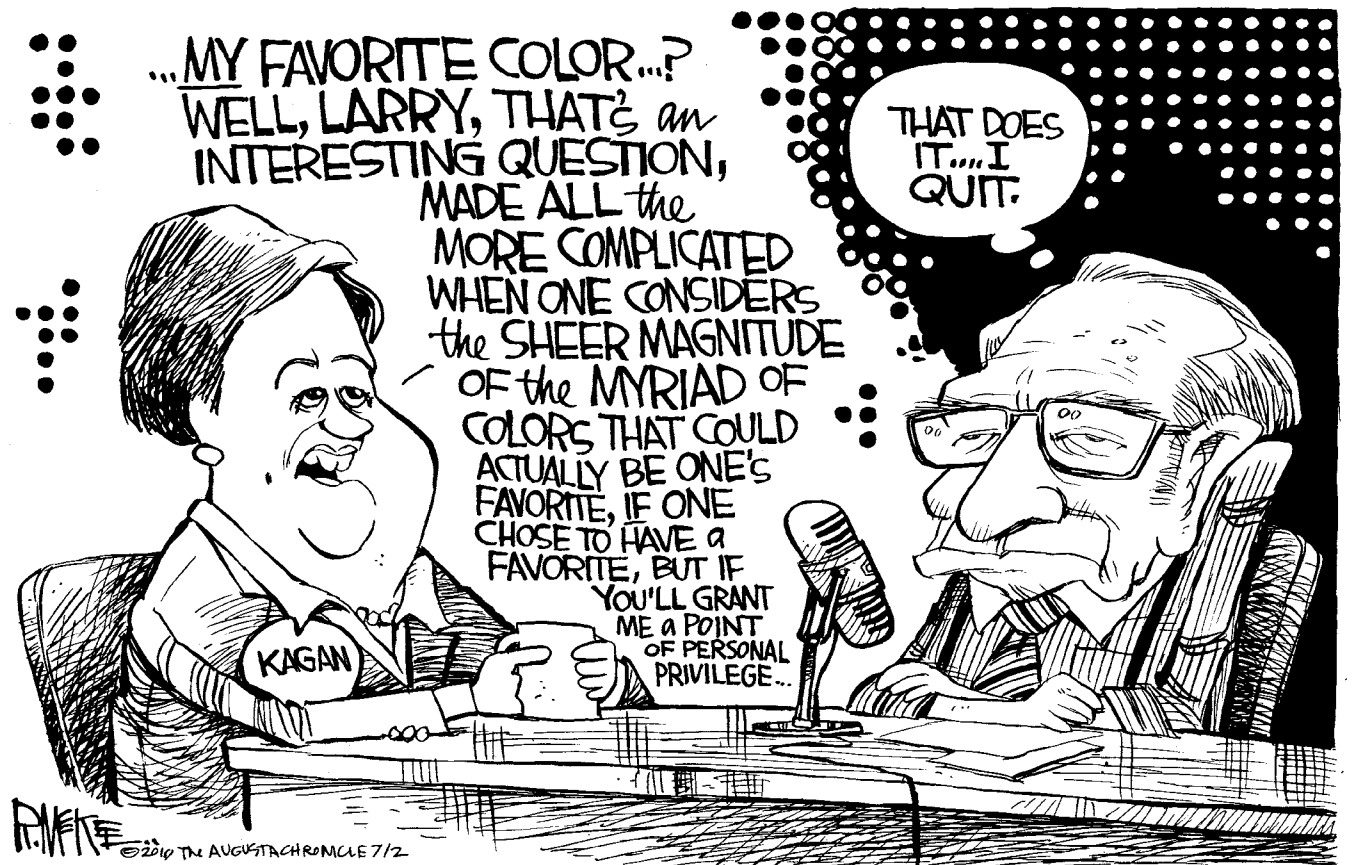
The key passage still stings. "What, to the American slave, is your Fourth of July? I answer; a day that reveals to him, more than all other days of the year, the gross injustice and cruelty to which he is the constant victim." Douglass' argument, formulated two years after passage of the Fugitive Slave Act ensured that runaway slaves could be retrieved in the North and returned to their masters, was plain as day but revelatory for its time: How could a nation celebrate its independence while so many of its citizens remained in chains? Whose independence?

The Fourth has a way of reflecting the way we see ourselves, or at least the way we view our relationship to America. If you were born a slave it's easy to see why the holiday would seem like a pernicious lie. If you were George M. Cohan, song-and-dance man and author of patriotic anthems including "Yankee Doodle Boy" and "Over There," Independence Day was nothing less than a birthright—even a birthday.

Cohan claimed to be "born on the Fourth of July," although official records indicate he was born on the third. It seems "born on the third of July" just doesn't have the same ring. Cohan died in 1942, the same year the reverential biopic "Yankee Doodle Dandy" was released. In the film, directed by Michael Curtiz, James Cagney plays Cohan as a man sprung fully formed from the flag's fabric. After starting as a youth in his family's vaudeville act, he grows into an entertainment embodiment of America. His patriotism becomes the basis of his show biz success, to the point where one was indistinguishable from the other.

Clearly the Fourth is more than a holiday. It's a prism and a symbol, and a versatile one at that. How versatile? Take that same phrase—"born on the Fourth of July"—shift it ahead a few decades and a couple of wars, and you get Ron Kovic's blistering memoir *Born on the Fourth of July*.

See INDEPENDENCE on Page 13



## Let's roll up our sleeves and go to work!

First part of a series

"Whatever the mind of man can conceive and believe, he can achieve."

—Napoleon Hill in his classic *Think and Grow Rich*

In two previous articles I have written asking the governor and the Legislature to lead us. But since that will not likely happen, we will have to help ourselves. Sad to admit but we citizens have fallen into a deadly trap. We keep relying on others to help us instead of helping ourselves.

We must stop feeling helpless and crying out for help. We have forgotten that the sweat of our brow and of our hands is the only sure way to succeed. No one can do for us what we must do for ourselves. We must firmly believe that if we want to improve, we must do it ourselves.

Remember that the basic function of the government is to "govern." It writes laws to protect us from evil forces, to organize a social society and to protect us from hurting ourselves. It also collects money from us and then dispenses it back in ways to improve our community. That is its function. It is not our father and mother.

If we want to improve ourselves we must do it ourselves. The government cannot and will not help us improve our personal lives. Many of its members do not know any better than we do how to improve their own lives.

The only way to improve our community and ourselves is to roll up our sleeves and go to work. We must educate ourselves to become a trained and motivated workforce. We must make human resources a national priority. Lee Kuan Yew, the former Prime Minister of Singapore, in a speech once stated that Singapore's success was due to

"the ability and industry of our young people, willing and eager to learn, prepared to work hard and pay their way in the world, finding pride and pleasure in constructive endeavor.... There is no law in nature which provides that life will get better next year. We have to work to make it better."

Singapore is a prime example of what a country can become. It was once a destitute colony of England. In 1959, it was cut off and left to drift for itself without natural resources and money. Today it stands as one of the most economically successful countries in the world. Please take time out to read *From Third World to First: The Singapore Story: 1965–2000* by Lee Kuan Yew. A fascinating history of rags to riches told by the man who did it. It can be bought on Amazon.com.

The CNMI is more blessed than many other countries in that we are in partnership with the world's greatest nation, the United States. We are fortunate to receive huge amounts of money to help us. In addition we are offered many opportunities to succeed. But alas, we somehow are failing despite all these advantages. This is all the

By ANTHONY PELLEGRINO

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Pellegrino is a longtime businessman in the CNMI and is the former president of the Saipan Chamber of Commerce.



more reason we must help ourselves. Let's set plans and goals. Stay with me as we explore what we have to do.

The first step to improving our condition is to admit that change is necessary. Self-realization is always the first step to improvement. We have to admit that we allowed ourselves to be manipulated. By that I mean when the garment industry was booming and the tourist industry was blooming, we let ourselves be relegated to third-class workers.

Owners of garment factories brought in thousands of cheap labor and tourist agents brought in their own people to run the tours. As a result over the years we were satisfied to live off of the labor of others. We were not motivated to seek employment. After all, who wants to work for such "low wages?" Huge taxes were collected. Government employees were happy. Their salaries were periodically raised. But we in the private sector didn't realize that we were being compromised. But that is now history. Let's move on.

Despite the pessimism echoed by many citizens, I see and feel great challenges awaiting us. We have a bountiful ocean, fertile soil, breathtaking scenery, a consistently warm climate, and proximity to a huge market. The only ingredient missing is a strong-willed and skilled labor force. As we train ourselves to become skilled, let us blend all of the ingredients to create a new era seasoned with a tireless strong will and a desire to improve ourselves and our economy.

When I see and hear of businesses closing down in Saipan, I am saddened that it is happening. However I also see this as an opportunity for us residents. Most of the businesses closing down were owned and operated by foreign investors who have now packed up and either gone home or have found more lucrative countries to invest in. This is a prime time for us to become entrepreneurs. As the stores and shops close down, we must move in and learn how to operate these businesses. Let's start!

In Saipan, we have about 160 grocery stores scattered in our neighborhoods. Yet only about 10 percent are locally owned and operated. Why is that? What can we do about it?

For those of you who are ambitious and determined, walk around your neighborhood and you may find an opportunity to open your own grocery store. I can hear it already: "There is one already. How

See LET'S ROLL on Page 13



**EDITORIAL POLICY** The *Saipan Tribune* welcomes comments on any article, column, editorial, or topic that may be of interest to the public. Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to [editor@saipantribune.com](mailto:editor@saipantribune.com); or through our website at [www.saipantribune.com](http://www.saipantribune.com).

# Let freedom ring

By **JAIME VERGARA**  
Special to the Saipan Tribune

*Vergara is a regular contributor to the Saipan Tribune's Opinion Section.*



“**Y**ou should have a ritual for your life,” wrote Joseph Campbell. Human life is ritual. Since the dawn of consciousness, humans adopted representations of their experience, in sensual forms and symbolic phrases and, in repeating exposure to them, trigger the reoccurrence of the original experience.

Yesterday, across the world, symbols in the retelling of human understanding of life in such forms as the Eucharist and the repetition of the word “Om” were observed to affirm people’s understanding of their existence. Across the U.S. this day, eastward beyond the international dateline, from Hawaii to the Virgin Islands, people are marking the day to remind them of what this nation is all about. The Fourth of July is America’s Ritual.

In 1963, a Negro preacher stood before emancipation President Abe Lincoln’s shadow and intoned in mesmerizing cadence the phrase, “Let Freedom Ring.” At the time, many thought of the voice as emanating from the bowels of rebellion, or worst, a misguided tenor of socialism.

*Freedom, liberty, independence, liberation, emancipation, self-termination* are terms that pepper the American lexicon on the Fourth of July. Of course, the 4th of July has nothing to do with the Fourth of July. The Continental Congress declared independence from England on July 2, 1776; the declaration text penned by Thomas Jefferson was agreed upon on the 4th, and historians now claim that the signatures in the document were set the following August.

It does not matter. For the commemoration of the day has less to do with the historical events of yesterday as it is an affirmation of the decisions we have made, are making, and the celebration of the human spirit in many lives, just as they are, who are boldly going “where no one had gone before.”

This 233-year journey has had many incarnations, and one that has had a long tenure in American psyche is “American Exceptionalism.” “A city built on a hill,” was the Puritan image of the

experiment toward a new way of social contract. Alexis de Tocqueville would call America “exceptional” in his two-volume *Democracy in America*. Contemporaneous thinkers in used “exceptional” in the sense of “uniqueness of the *volks*,” the *Volksgeist*, the emerging national spirit, the soul of the people. Thus, democracy in America is a celebration of its people’s spirit; in JFK’s term, a nation of immigrants.

Abe Lincoln would enshrine that sense in the ending of his Gettysburg Address where he defined American democracy as the nation’s new birth of freedom, *and that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth*. As one centralized control politician (translate: dictator) rightfully wrote and said, but misguidedly implemented, *Today’s Revolution: Democracy*.

Carlos Bulosan, an Ilokano U.S. immigrant who came during the 1930 Depression, blacklisted by the FBI and dubbed a socialist for his work with the labor movement in California, wrote his semi-autobiography with the title, *America is in the Heart*. His sense follows Jefferson’s changing of John Lockes’ “life, liberty, and the pursuit of property” to the “pursuit of happiness.” To be sure, many who came to the new world were happy to own property, a right only given to the aristocracy in good *olde* England, but Jefferson also had a sense that the rationalism of the Enlightenment—shown in the Cartesian formula, *I think, therefore, I am*—needed the countervailing influence of feelings and the “heart.”

Bulosan, after the racism and deprivation he encountered in real America, nevertheless, advised his colleagues: “We who came to the United States as immigrants are Americans, too. All of us were immigrants—all the way down the line. We are Americans, all who have toiled for this land, who have made it rich and free. But we must not demand from America, because she is still our unfinished dream ... we must give our lives that she might grow unencumbered.” Our CNMI American wannabes, take heed.

The unfinished dream was Martin’s ringing for freedom. This came home to me in 1967 when a Chicago Caucasian lass and I (a year before in the Windy City, we got accosted by a guy who asked, “What are you doing with a white girl, boy?”) got married in Arlington, VA. Only a few months before, the Supreme Court (*Loving vs. Virginia*) struck down the State’s Racial Integrity Act of 1924 that prohibited inter-racial marriages. Had we been a year earlier in our decision, our two daughters might just have been human wannabes.

Exceptionalism has a jingoistic underbelly, turning “manifest destiny” into license to exploit people. Retired colonel Boston U professor, Andrew Bacevich, wrote two years ago for the American Empire Project a treatise called, *The Limits of Power*; subtitled, *the End of American Exceptionalism*. He laments the empire building

that went along our original sense of being a “beacon of light for all to see.”

In the last G20 Toronto gathering with its multicultural emphasis, Obama was asked if he believed in American Exceptionalism. He said, “*I believe in American exceptionalism, just as I suspect that the Brits believe in British exceptionalism and the Greeks believe in Greek exceptionalism.*” Exceptionalism in religious tradition goes back to the Chosen People. That was a designation of a mission, not superiority of identity.

The rituals of the Fourth of July include hot dogs and fireworks. But its bells of freedom ring loudly in the heart. For Chamolinians and American wannabes, those bells also toll for thee!

# Representational democracy is a two-way street

By **GREGORIO KILILI C. SABLAN**  
Special to the Saipan Tribune

*Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan is delegate of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands to the U.S. Congress.*



**J**uly 4<sup>th</sup> is 234<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our nation’s Declaration of Independence. The date also marks the 64<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the release of the people of the Northern Mariana Islands from the confines of Camp Susupe following the World War II battles in our islands.

There is one very important truth about the representational democracy we celebrate on July 4th. It requires the active participation of the people in order to work well.

Last week, something happened to remind me of that truth; and I would like to share it with you:

A constituent reported to me that the flag of the Northern Mariana Islands was not being displayed along with the flags of all the other U.S. states and territories at Ft. Drum, New York.

Being left out like this was most troubling because it happened where troops returning from combat duty are welcomed home. Imagine how unwelcome our Northern Marianas soldiers would feel if the flag of their home was not on display alongside those of their brothers and sisters in arms.

That our flag was missing in action was also frustrating because Army Regulation 840-10 specifically requires that these displays must consist of all state and territorial flags. Furthermore, the Secretary of the Army had sent me assurance last October that a general notice had gone out to remind all military installations, major commands, and schools of the Regulation and of the requirement that they comply.

Of course, the office of the Secretary was extremely responsive last week when I alerted them that once again the Commonwealth flag was missing from a display of state and territorial flags. Within 48 hours of the problem being reported to me, the problem was fixed. Our flag now flies where it should.

Afterwards, as I thought about this incident, I was reminded of what it says about representational democracy and how important it is for all of us to participate and take responsibility for our government.

We rightly trust the day-to-day operations of government to the people elected to run things. But we also have to step up and speak out when government fails to operate as it should. By remaining silent, by failing to participate we are accepting things as they are.

The truth is that neither the Secretary of the Army nor I can go to every single military installation to make sure the flag displays are exactly as they should be. We have to depend on the eyes and ears of others.

That is why I am always glad to hear from the people I work for. Especially when they point out what needs to be fixed or how their government can be improved.

That is why I welcome the many new means that we have to communicate with each other and why I have set up a congressional Facebook page, e-mail address ([kilili@mail.house.gov](mailto:kilili@mail.house.gov)), Web site (<http://sablan.house.gov>), toll-free number (1-877-446-3465), and offices on Rota, Tinian, and Saipan to add to the traditional phone (202-225-2646) and fax (202-226-4249). I want it to be as easy as possible for you to tell me what’s important to you, what is working, and what is not.

As we celebrate America’s Independence Day and our own Liberation Day, let us remember: The only way to make our democracy better is for all of us to be active participants in the here and now, building the world we want for ourselves and our children.

# Seriosu Na Probleman Dibi

By **JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.**  
Special to the Saipan Tribune

*DelRosario is a regular contributor to the Saipan Tribune's Opinion Section.*



**T**at siuda yan estado giya America, kontodu i federat, ti pinalolopu’ probleman biyon pot biyon na dibi siha. Kumeke ilegña na megaiña gaston niha ke hafa humahalom gi uttimon i sakan.

Megai na empleau mana’ fan para ginen i chechu niha. Ayu siha na offisiu

manae’ kompanian praibet para siha u chinegue gi menos na gas-to. Hawaii, California yan New York na estados siha mit pot mit na empleau mana’ fan para gi chechu niha.

Mansuette sa’ guaha ayudon para i mantai chechu’ ni mafanana’an benefisiun ti man-ma-emplelea (unemployment benefits). Taya’ este na prebilehio guine gi tano’ta.

I sessu katma na hinasoghu mampos miburuka na biahe ‘an ta konsidera hafa ta fafana’ na chinatsaga.

Namatman haf’ taimanu na tita lie’ este na napu ni tat tiha prensa ‘sino ha bogbug hale’ña sin ditension ginen i pisu. Malag manu ayu i mansaŋgan pot man-menhalom?

Konsidera i para ta padese gi man-mamamaila’ siha na sakan. Siempre fuetsau u fan ma-utot i numeron empleau gobietno. Este na disision ti libianu (yangin masusede) sa’ ni bandan bisnis taya’ chochu ‘nai siña man-mana’ fan nahgoŋg i los prohimos.

Siña kulan ta katson ñaihon hit gi finaisen ayudon federat. Lau gi mismo tiempo siempre ha faisen hit para ta utot gastota finenina. Debi ta produse planon ma-utot gaston operasion gi toduramas

gobietno, kontodo planon ma-utot presente na dibin gobietno siha. Sin antau na presentasion, guseña man-matotbus hit huyoŋg para ta komprende na taya’ esta dibatde na amotsan oga’an yan taloane.

Debi tana’ para gaston mas ke hafa tana’ hahalom kada sakan. I hagas bisiu esta tai kampo para ta kontinua pumetsige. Matto i tiempo ‘nai debi ta aregla halom gima’ta.

■■■

## Tinilaika gi Linala’ta

Este na pinadese hana’ hahassuyu’ un’ tiempo ‘nai poble lau ma-ŋgotentu yan man-magof hit ni linala’ta. Guihe na tiempo, taiguine diariu modun ha’anita: I utilidat hagas guma tres pesos gi mes. Gima hayu, fitme, safu yan komun sanhiyoŋg. Maseha dididi gai pau, lau ta usune usuña diaramente. Pagu, manman-hatsa hit guma hotnu ni debi u guaha air-condition yan komun atileg. I apas utilidat umalapapat yan apas guma gi bañku. Pues, man-lalalu hit ni CUC.

Dispues de finagpo’ chochu, man-achaikag hit yan minachom at-dau para ta usune man-mananom yan inasisten pinegsai gaga siha para prebinsion familia. Pagu, debi tafañugu para Happy Hour yan man-gachoŋg kulan mohon megai ti ta diskute sustansiau siha na asuntu gi offisina. Dispues, ni bisinu titalie’ gi uttimon haane’ sa man-gaige hit esta gi menan television. De dios!

Man-mauleg hit antes ni kineman satdinas yan biriñenas ‘sino kaŋgkuŋg. Pagu, man-hanau hit guatu gi KFC, McDonalds yan otru lugat siha para ta daflogue tinilada na mantikan babue, manog yan guaka. Dispues tafababan maisa hinasota ‘nai man-mamaisen hit Diet na gimen. Magpu’ i lisayu! Dispues de todur ineyag neŋgkano konbiniente ni motmut mantika yan asukat, kahulu i numeron tau-tauta ni man-nina’ye chetnot mames memi’ yan tatkilu haga’. Hihot mahlug i hagian man-risetan haga yan asukat. De dios!

Siña afañelos ta bira tatte pot para ta adelanta este siha na dis-kuidu. Lau debi u tutuhongue giya hita mismu. Hagu i kapitan bat-komu. Hagu solu siña tumulaika ti man-homlu siha na bisiu yan offisiu. Tutuhon deste pagu na haane. Tutuhon giya hagu mismu, finenina!

■■■






Malalagu dos saki sa’ dinidilalag ni galagun guma. Acha matom-pu ya estaba gi menan niha un’ dañkulon prestan taki. Ilegña i unu kau ha ñgiñgiŋgi’ fina’ mutuŋg. Ineppe na huñgan. Sinablasus tatte: “Taña fan kau magahet?” A’ Saina!



Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: [www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/](http://www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/)

# The Weather

## 5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
				
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 20 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 20 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲ 89° ▼ 79°	▲ 89° ▼ 79°	▲ 89° ▼ 78°	▲ 89° ▼ 78°	▲ 89° ▼ 78°

### Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Thundershowers	▲ 87 ▼ 80
Palau	Rain	▲ 85 ▼ 78
Yap	Rain	▲ 88 ▼ 77
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	▲ 83 ▼ 77
Pohnpei	Rain	▲ 86 ▼ 76
Kosrae	Showers	▲ 88 ▼ 79
Majuro	Rain	▲ 82 ▼ 79

### Around The Globe

Auckland	Showers	▲ 58 ▼ 51
Beijing	Mostly Sunny	▲ 90 ▼ 69
Hong Kong	Thundershowers	▲ 87 ▼ 75
Honolulu	Sunny	▲ 84 ▼ 74
London	Partly Cloudy	▲ 75 ▼ 59
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	▲ 75 ▼ 61
Manila	Thundershowers	▲ 91 ▼ 77
Melbourne	Mostly Cloudy	▲ 54 ▼ 39
Miami	Thundershowers	▲ 87 ▼ 79
New York	Partly Cloudy	▲ 95 ▼ 74
Osaka	Thundershowers	▲ 83 ▼ 73
Paris	Mostly Sunny	▲ 81 ▼ 62
Pusan	Mostly Sunny	▲ 78 ▼ 70
Rome	Sunny	▲ 88 ▼ 67
Salem	Sunny	▲ 77 ▼ 57
San Francisco	Sunny	▲ 68 ▼ 57
Seoul	Thundershowers	▲ 82 ▼ 69
Tokyo	Thundershowers	▲ 82 ▼ 75
Washington, DC	Partly Cloudy	▲ 98 ▼ 77

### Tides

Saipan Harbor				
1:09 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet	
8:22 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.5 Feet	
2:18 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.3 Feet	
7:25 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.9 Feet	

### Yesterday's Satellite Image



**PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, SUNDAY, JULY 4, 2010**  
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Converging southwest winds are causing scattered showers and a few thunderstorms northwest of the Mariana Islands in an area from 20N136E to 24N144E to 15N140E to 13N132E back to 20N136E. Trade-wind convergence is producing scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms across southern micronesia in two areas. One area is from near Palau eastward across Chuuk within 200 miles of a line from 4N132E to 7N153E and another area extends from south of Pohnpei across Kosrae and the Marshall Islands between 3N and 8N from 157E to 178E.

### Sunrise/Sunset

Today	5:51 AM	6:52 PM
Tuesday	5:52 AM	6:52 PM
Wednesday	5:52 AM	6:52 PM
Thursday	5:52 AM	6:52 PM
Friday	5:52 AM	6:52 PM

### Moonrise/Moonset

Today	12:39 AM
Tuesday	12:32 AM 1:30 PM
Wednesday	1:14 AM 2:24 PM
Thursday	2:01 AM 3:21 PM
Friday	2:53 AM 4:21 PM

## GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

#### PICTURES

- **ISLAND SNAPSHOTS**  
Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- **BIRTHDAY GREETINGS**  
A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- **BUSINESS**  
Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- **SAMUT SARI**  
Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- **TRAVELOGUE**  
Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **COMMUNITY BRIEFS**

Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.

#### CAMPUS BULLETIN

Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

#### REQUIREMENTS

##### For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

##### For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when),

the name of contact person, and a phone number.

- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

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  - Fax: (670) 235-3740
  - Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
  - Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
- To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

#### POLICY

- The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to accept or reject a contribution for publication; the right to edit all contributions, the date of publication, size of the picture, and page placement; and the right to publish contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats.
- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

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## FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MAY 27, 2010

DEPARTURES	ARRIVALS
<b>ROTA (ROP)-GUAM</b> C09597 5:00am 5:30am 1, 5	<b>GUAM-ROTA (ROP)</b> C09598 6:30pm 7:00pm 4, 7
<b>SAIPAN-GUAM</b> C09317 4:25am 5:15am Daily C09313 8:30am 9:20am Daily C09601 12:10pm 1:00pm 1, 4, 5, 7 C09603 3:05pm 3:55pm Daily C09605 6:35pm 7:25pm Daily C09599 9:35pm 10:25pm Daily	<b>GUAM-SAIPAN</b> C09316 2:45am 3:35am Daily C09596 7:00am 7:50am Daily C09600 10:05am 10:55am Daily C09602 1:40pm 2:30pm 1, 4, 5, 7 C09604 5:10pm 6:00pm Daily C09606 8:10pm 9:00pm Daily
<b>SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)</b> DL287 5:55am 8:35am Daily DL297 3:35pm 6:15pm Daily DL289 4:35pm 7:15pm Daily	<b>NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN</b> DL290 10:00am 2:35pm Daily DL298 10:30am 3:05pm Daily DL288 8:40pm 1:15am+1 Daily
<b>SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)</b> OZ608 3:20am 6:50am 1, 5	<b>BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN</b> OZ607 9:00pm 2:20am+1 4, 7
<b>SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)</b> OZ604 2:20am 6:10am 1 OZ604 2:50am 6:30am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 OZ606 3:30pm 7:00pm 2, 4, 6, 7	<b>SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN</b> OZ605 9:00am 2:30pm 2, 4, 6, 7 OZ603 7:40pm 1:10am+1 7 OZ603 8:10pm 1:40am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
<b>SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)</b> FM844 2:50am 5:40am 2, 6	<b>SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN</b> FM843 7:15pm 1:50am+1 1, 5
<b>SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)</b> CZ3008 3:30am 6:40am 2, 6	<b>GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN</b> CZ3007 7:30pm 2:40am+1 1, 5
<b>SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)</b> OZ604/701 2:20am 11:25am 1 via ICN OZ604/701 2:50am 11:25am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN OZ606/703 2:20am 11:00pm 1 via ICN OZ606/703 2:50am 11:00pm 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN OZ608/705 3:20am 12:10am+1 1, 5 via PUS C09317/891 4:25am 9:45am 6 via GUM C09603/893 3:05pm 9:10pm 3, 5 via GUM-Palau C09603/933 3:05pm 8:40pm Daily via GUM	<b>MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN</b> OZ704/605 12:10am 2:30pm 2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN OZ706/607 3:35am 2:20am+1 4, 7 via PUS C0890/9606 10:55am 9:00pm 6 via GUM OZ702/603 12:45pm 1:10am+1 7 via ICN OZ702/603 12:45pm 1:40am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN PR110/C09596 10:00pm 7:50am+1 1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM C0892/9596 10:10pm 7:50am+1 3, 5 via GUM-Palau C0934/9596 10:55pm 7:50am+1 Daily via GUM
<b>SAIPAN-HONG KONG</b> OZ604/721 2:20am 11:45am 1 via ICN OZ604/721 2:50am 11:45am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN OZ606/749 3:30pm 11:00pm 4, 6, 7 via ICN C09603/909 3:05am 9:30pm 1, 5 via GUM	<b>HONG KONG-SAIPAN</b> OZ724/605 12:30am 2:20pm 2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN OZ750/605 1:00am 2:20pm 2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN OZ722/603 1:15pm 1:10am+1 7 via ICN OZ722/603 1:15pm 1:40am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN C0910/9596 10:35pm 7:50am+1 1, 5 via GUM

Editor's Note: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); CZ: China Southern; CO: Continental; FM: Shanghai Airlines; PR: Philippine Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

## FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
<b>Guam-Rota</b>			
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily
<b>Rota-Saipan</b>			
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily
<b>Guam-Rota</b>			
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily
<b>Rota-Saipan</b>			
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily
<b>Rota-Guam</b>			
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily
<b>Saipan-Rota</b>			
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily
<b>Rota-Guam</b>			
FRE 102	10:20	10:45	Daily
<b>Saipan-Rota</b>			
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily
<b>Rota-Guam</b>			
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily
<b>Saipan-Tinian</b>			
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily
<b>Airline</b>	<b>ETD</b>	<b>ETA</b>	<b>Frequency</b>
FRE 113	11:40	11:50	Daily
FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
<b>Tinian-Saipan</b>			
FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily
FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily



## NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- \*11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at [www.nmicrimestoppers.com](http://www.nmicrimestoppers.com)



## O P I N I O N

## Letters to the Editor

## Solving local problems

The most serious problem in our community is gambling. This is a serious problem because people will spend their whole paychecks on gambling. When they don't win, they'll just keep going back to spend more money.

People will spend their whole paychecks on poker. When they do this, they won't have money left to buy stuff for their family and to pay bills. Some will win, but most of them will go home penniless. Some people

will go home with no money, and they'll become violent or release their own anger to others because of their losses.

They'll also start asking other people for money or help. Some people will wait until the next payday to play again and again. The more they spend money, the more they lose even though they win a little.

To solve this problem, we should shut down all poker machines in the CNMI. Another

solution is to convince people to only go to poker with leftover money from the bills they pay and the food they buy.

For now, poker will remain a problem, but in the future I hope people will finally realize that gambling will destroy themselves, their families and their jobs.

**Gerald Crisostomo**  
5th Grade, Tinian Elementary School

## Kudos

Congratulations to retired chief justice Jose S. Dela Cruz for his new book, *From Colonialism to Self-Government: The Northern Marianas Experience*, perhaps the greatest book yet about the actual experience of the CNMI through

the years, from colonialism to the present day CNMI. The book also explains why come the CNMI is presently experiencing a failure in self-government. Read about it!

His book has finally arrived and is all set for launching and

signing this Saturday July 10, 2010, at the American Memorial Park Visitor Center at 10am. See you all there. *En fin serafin!*

**Alexandro "The Colonel" Sablan**  
Dandan, Saipan

## INDEPENDENCE

From Page 10

Kovic started out as more of a Cohan than a Douglass, with the exception that Kovic actually was born on Independence Day, 1946. He was Raised in Massapequa, N.Y., an unquestioning patriot who relished the parades and fireworks that marked each birthday. The opening scenes in Oliver Stone's 1990 film version of Born capture a Norman Rockwell-like sense of July Fourth pageantry, as the wide-eyed young Kovic basks Cohan-like in a parade that could have leaped off the screen of a Frank Capra movie. All this? For me? The Fourth makes Kovic, like Cohan, feel that he is his country.

So of course he enlists to serve his country in Vietnam. He returns as a traumatized paraplegic and embarks on the quintessentially American process of

personal transformation. The all-American birthday boy starts asking what the hell we were doing over there and becomes an anti-war activist. He also flips the Fourth of July symbolism on its head, giving the title of his story a sardonic edge.

There are as many interpretations of the Fourth as there are Americans. It's only fair to close with one of my own.

A few years back, for the first time as an adult, I spent July Fourth away from a big city environment. I wasn't sleeping late on a rare day off from work, or swigging beer with buddies, or fighting traffic to get back to my apartment. I was in Door County, Wis. with a Milwaukee friend, just off the Lake Michigan shore. Like the young Ron Kovic, I could have been in a Rockwell painting.

I remember a hush as elderly gentlemen from Veterans of Foreign Wars, dressed in full uniform, marched in from

the street. They presented the colors and fired off a salute; small children scurried in to collect the shells. I could see the pride in sacrifice etched in the men's faces.

I've always loved my country but I've never felt the need to scream it from the rooftops, and I've never gone in for pageantry or ceremony. This was the first time the Fourth of July meant much more to me than a lazy afternoon and a night of flashing lights.

It felt real. Symbolic, sure; no one was about to invade Door County. But the solemn pageantry reminded me more than others why we celebrate the Fourth in the first place. And they made the blasts of fireworks glimmer a little brighter through the sky.

*Chris Vognar is a critic for the Dallas Morning News, regularly writing about movies, books and music.*

## LET'S ROLL

From Page 10

can I compete?" I cannot tell you in this paper, but if you are interested I will discuss it with you if you call me at 235-6684 or come to the Northern Marianas Trades Institute.

Of the over 70 auto repair shops on Saipan, less than 10 percent are locally owned and operated. Why is that? What can we do about it? Again those of you that is willing to open a shop and have the experience, call me at or visit the trades institute and let's talk.

The above are only two of the opportunities waiting for us to jump into. There are many more that can be started with little money and little experience. But we need heart and determination. Do I sound silly? I have been doing this very activity for

all my adult life.

To be truthful, every business I have engaged in I never knew anything about it, but learned as I entered it. I am embarrassed to tell you how many times I have failed in business and how much money I have lost. But every time I fell, I picked myself up and started again. So what! Someone once told me that failure is halfway to success. Think about it.

Forgive me if I sound as though I am boasting (that is not my intention) but how else can I convince you that you also can do what I have been doing. I am no genius, but I am determined. I want to motivate you to take the steps needed to make you also independent.

If running a business is not your trick, we can become good employees. We can learn to become skillful and professional at anything we do. For example,

take a job at any wage offered and become good at it. I guarantee you will get a raise shortly. We all have to start somewhere. Determine to be a good employee and you will succeed.

Confucius once wrote: "A person who does something in which he finds joy will never work a day in his life." That's the problem with many of us. We never seem to find what we enjoy doing. I am saddened whenever someone says to me: "Oh, I can hardly wait until I retire. Only a few more years." What agony that individual must be going through, daily hating every minute of his job.

What are your dreams? What do you aspire to? Next week let's continue to discuss other opportunities awaiting us as we decide to take the plunge to improve ourselves. Let's get off our butts and do it!

## L O C A L



CLARISSA DAVID

Staff Sergeant Noel Chargualaf of the 100th Battalion 4-42 Infantry Regiment demonstrates to young kids the use of some military gear Wednesday last week at the Army Reserve Enrichment Camp held at Marianas Resort & Spa. The weeklong enrichment camp aims to increase the resiliency of kids ages 4-12 yrs old who have family members in the Army Reserve.

## Army Reserve kids learn to bond in 'enrichment camp'

By CLARISSA V. DAVID  
clarissa\_david@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

For 9-year-old Isabella Bargfrede, watching an actual military person demonstrate what they do in the field and the gear they use has helped her understand what her mom does when she goes off to work.

Bargfrede is among the 64 youngsters who participated in the Army Reserve Enrichment Camp from June 28 to July 2 at the Mariana Resort & Spa.

Organized by the Army Reserve Child, Youth and School Services, the weeklong enrichment camp was intended for youth ages 4-12 years old who have family members in the Army Reserve.

The enrichment camp was intended to increase the resiliency of its young participants by providing them the necessary skills to deal with issues affecting them as relatives of Army Reservists, such as deployment, rehabilitation or loss of loved ones.

Christina Douglas, public

affairs officer of the 9th Mission Support Command, said participants were divided into four groups: Barracudas, Coconut Crabs, Piranhas, and Sea Turtles. Each group took part in different fun activities that cultivate teambuilding and leadership skills.

These activities included horseback riding, snorkeling, swimming, volleyball, kickball, and go-kart racing.

On Wednesday, the kids went through the military-themed component of the enrichment camp, which included an arts and crafts booth where they were able to make red, white and blue cards for their family members who are soldiers; and physical training activities like basic maneuvering tactics.

Four soldiers devoted their time to help with Wednesday's activities: Staff Sgt. Noel Chargualaf, Staff Sgt. Sevio Chargualaf, and Private First Class Ralph Ascano from the 100th Battalion 4-42 Infantry; and Specialist Joe Villacrusis of the

302nd Quartermaster.

"Our goal is for these kids to have fun and connect with other Army Reserve kids," said Katie Laughlin, Community Outreach Specialist of the Army Reserve Child, Youth and School Services.

Laughlin said these kids sometimes do not know that a connection exists between them and other Army Reserve kids.

Community outreach specialist Tara Dixon said the kids are able to learn more about their strengths and weaknesses and develop relationships with other kids through the enrichment camp. "They build strong friendships and bonds because of what they have in common."

Students who participated in the Army Reserve Youth Leadership, Education and Development Summit volunteered to help with the enrichment camp.

Craig Chargualaf, who is the son of Staff Sgt. Sevio Chargualaf, said he wanted to help these kids learn more about their Army Reserve family members while having fun.

Laughlin said this is the second time they conducted an enrichment camp on Saipan. They plan to hold it regularly, she added.



CLARISSA DAVID

Kids make cards for their family members in the Army Reserve as part of their activities in the Army Reserve Enrichment Camp Wednesday.



# 64th Liberation Day Parade



The Falun Dafa Association

ROSELYN MONROYO



Lt. Gov. Eloy S. Inos, First Lady Josie Fitial, Governor Benigno R. Fitial, and Delta Airlines representative Esther Muna join the 2010 Liberation Day festivities.

MONETH DEPOSA



Students of the Wise Women Village Project and Rose Dance School

ROSELYN MONROYO



Members of the Northern Marianas Badminton Association

ROSELYN MONROYO



Members of the Boy Scouts of America Aloha Council CNMI District

ROSELYN MONROYO



MP United Football Club

ROSELYN MONROYO



Matansa Football Club

ROSELYN MONROYO



Tan Holdings Football Club

ROSELYN MONROYO



Students of Uncle Ben's Academy

ROSELYN MONROYO





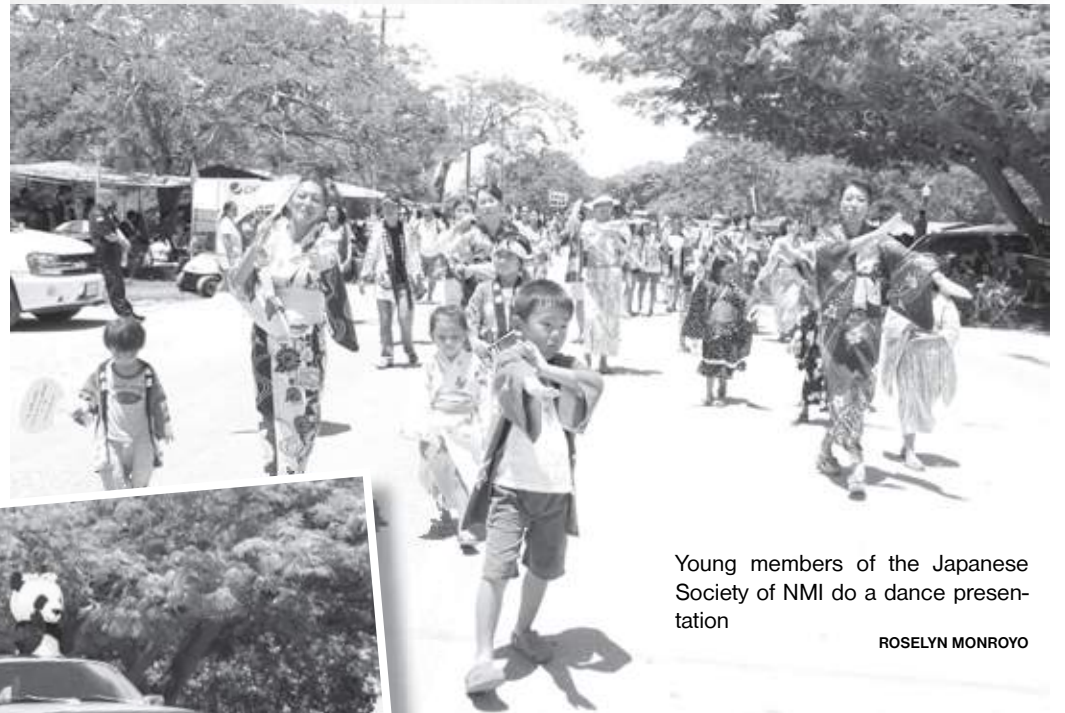
Young girls of Uncle Ben's Academy wearing the traditional Filipino costume of baro't saya.  
ROSELYN MONROYO



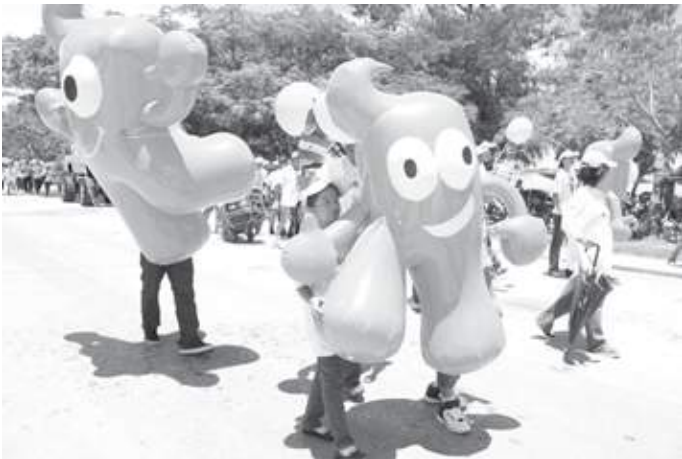
Members of the Korean Community of Saipan perform a dance number  
ROSELYN MONROYO



Japanese Society of Northern Mariana Islands  
ROSELYN MONROYO



Young members of the Japanese Society of NMI do a dance presentation  
ROSELYN MONROYO



Members of the Chinese Association of Saipan  
ROSELYN MONROYO



◀ Saipanda mascots from the Chinese Association of Saipan  
ROSELYN MONROYO



Saipan Awaodori Team  
ROSELYN MONROYO



▲ United Filipino Organization float  
ROSELYN MONROYO

◀ Division of Youth Services float  
ROSELYN MONROYO



Public Schools System float  
ROSELYN MONROYO



Little Mr. & Ms. Blue Marlin Royal Court float of Kagman Elementary School.  
ROSELYN MONROYO



# Business

## Job security fades for state, local government employees

By CHRISTOPHER LEONARD and CHRISTOPHER S. RUGABER  
AP BUSINESS WRITERS

For years, most people who worked for state or local governments accepted a fact of life: Their pay wasn't great. The job security was.

Now that's gone, too.

States and municipalities are facing gaping budget gaps. Many have responded by slashing services, raising taxes and, for the first time in decades, making deep job cuts.

And public employees should brace themselves: Some economists say the job cuts could worsen in the second half of the year.

Those government layoffs make it harder to reduce the national unemployment rate, now 9.5 percent. The rate did fall slightly in June because more than a half-million out-of-work Americans gave up their job searches. Once people stop seeking work, they're no longer counted as unemployed.

The economy is already under pressure from weak consumer spending, sinking stock prices, a European debt crisis and a teetering real estate market.

"It's certainly a drag on economic growth in our outlook," Mark Vitner, an economist at Wells Fargo, said of the loss of public-sector jobs.

It's also a burden for residents. As state and municipal employees are cut, so are services. It takes longer to register a car, see a school nurse or travel to work by bus.

In California, state-run Department of Motor Vehicle offices have been closed on selected furlough Fridays to cut costs.

In New York City, a new budget will close up to 30 senior centers, shutter a 24-hour

homeless center in Manhattan and eliminate nurses at schools with fewer than 300 students.

In Atlanta, the metro transit agency shut 40 bus lines and closed restrooms in June. Even so, 300 employees might lose their jobs to close a \$69 million budget gap.

Julie Bussgang used to have assistants to help her keep order in her kindergarten classroom in Albany, Calif. Last year, those assistants were cut. Bussgang was left on her own.

"I've had kids calling for help from the bathroom, and I was alone with 24 kids," she says. "We got through far less of the curriculum than we did in the previous year. Everything took longer."

State and local governments cut 95,000 jobs in the first half of the year even as the economy slowly recovered. Private employers, by contrast, added 593,000 jobs in that time. It's the first time the public sector has cut jobs while the private sector has added jobs since 1981, said Marisa Di Natale, a director at Moody's Economy.com.

In the second half of the year, 152,000 more local and state government employees will be laid off, estimates Nigel Gault, an economist at IHS Global Insight.

Counting companies that work with state governments, a total of 900,000 jobs could be lost to states' budget shortfalls, according to the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, a think tank in Washington.

From teachers and probation officers to recreation workers and transportation specialists, public employees who never imagined their jobs could be in jeopardy are discovering they are.

They are people like 24-year-old Brianna Clegg,

who had never hesitated to take on school loans in pursuit of her teaching certificate.

"I was always hearing, 'There's a huge need for teachers.'"

Yet as California's budget crisis mounted last year, thousands of teaching jobs were slashed. One was Clegg's job teaching fourth grade in Stockton, Calif.

When she sought another position, she made a grim discovery: In a state in which roughly 26,000 teachers have been laid off, openings existed for 39 teachers. Clegg wasn't among the fortunate few.

Across the country, the trouble stems from shrinking state income and sales tax revenue, a consequence of the recession. Total state revenue dropped 11 percent from fiscal year 2008, when the recession began, to fiscal 2010, according to the National Association of State Budget Officers.

Compounding the problem, Democrats in Congress have failed to come up with the votes to spend about \$50 billion to help states pay for Medicaid programs and avoid teacher layoffs. Governors made a plea for the money to help them avoid layoffs. Kansas Gov. Mark Parkinson said his state might have to lay off 3,600 teachers.

Senate Republicans have argued that the nation can't afford further spending in light of record-high budget deficits.

Until recently, state governments had been able to paper over some of their funding shortfalls with money from last year's \$787 billion federal stimulus package. Now that's drying up. As a new fiscal year begins this month in most states, they're struggling to balance their budgets, as required by every state but Vermont.

tive satellites and 20,000 pieces of debris.

### BP cautious about gains in Gulf drilling schedule

NEW ORLEANS (AP)—Work on the best chance at stopping a massive Gulf of Mexico oil leak is ahead of schedule, but BP is sticking with its mid-August estimate of when the job will be done. BP America spokesman Daren Beaudou said Saturday that drilling for relief wells near the leak is a few days ahead of schedule. But he says severe weather could cause delays. Hurricane Alex didn't stop work, but a closer hit could interrupt drilling. As the drilling gets deeper, the work also becomes slower and more precise.

# Nation



The "A Whale" skimmer, billed as the world's largest oil skimming vessel, is seen anchored on the Mississippi River in Boothville, La., Wednesday, June 30, 2010.

## Hopes ride on gigantic oil skimmer in Gulf of Mexico

NEW ORLEANS (AP)—The latest hopes are riding on a massive new skimmer to clean oil from near the spewing well in the Gulf of Mexico, while a local Louisiana parish's plan to block the slick has been rejected by federal officials.

A 48-hour test of the Taiwanese vessel dubbed "A Whale" began Saturday and was to continue through Sunday.

TMT Shipping created what is billed as the world's largest oil skimmer by converting an oil tanker after the April 20 explosion sent millions of gallons of crude spilling into the Gulf.

The vessel was expected to cruise a 25-square-mile test site just north of the Macondo Deepwater well site, company officials said.

The U.S. Coast Guard and BP are waiting to see if the vessel, which is 10 stories high and as long as 3 1/2 football fields, can live up to its makers'

promise of being able to process up to 21 million gallons of oil-fouled water a day.

The ship works by taking in water through 12 vents, separating the oil and pumping the cleaned seawater back into the Gulf.

"In many ways, the ship collects water like an actual whale and pumps internally like a human heart," TMT spokesman Bob Grantham said in an e-mail.

A Whale is being tested close to the wellhead because officials believe it will be most effective where the oil is thickest rather than closer to shore.

The ship arrived in the Gulf on Wednesday, but officials have wanted to test its capability as well as have the federal Environmental Protection Agency sign off on the water it will pump back into the Gulf, which will contain trace amounts of crude.

The wait has frustrated some local officials, who say the mammoth skimmer would be a game-changer in keeping oil from reaching vulnerable coastlines.

During a Thursday tour of the inlet to Barataria Bay, Louisiana Gov. Bobby Jindal said it was exasperating to have A Whale anchored offshore instead of being put to immediate use.

"They've used the war rhetoric," Jindal said aboard a boat floating in oil-slicked waters near Grand Isle. "If this is really a war, they need to be using every resource that makes sense to fight this oil before it comes to our coast."

The governor, who has been outspoken in his criticism of the relief effort, also criticized a decision by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to reject a proposal by Jefferson Parish to build a series of rock dikes to protect the ecologically important Barataria Bay.

### ACROSS THE NATION

#### Man charged in boat crash near Statue of Liberty

NEW YORK (AP)—A New Jersey man was charged with vehicular manslaughter after a boat crash near the Statue of Liberty that killed a groom-to-be and injured two other men. New York City police said 39-year-old Richard Aquilone of Jersey City, N.J., was out on the water Friday evening with his wife, their 2-year-old daughter and two sons, ages 2 and 3, when their 30-foot boat hit a smaller craft. Police said Jijo Puthuvamkunnath, 30, of Bergenfield, N.J., and two friends were in the 17-foot boat anchored off Liberty Island that was struck by Aquilone. Puthuvamkunnath was taken to Jersey City Medical Center, where he was pronounced dead of head injuries.

His two friends, both also 30, were treated for minor injuries.

#### Fire destroys gay pride float in Anchorage

ANCHORAGE, Alaska (AP)—Anchorage authorities say they're investigating the cause of a fire that destroyed a gay pride float intended for a 4th of July parade. KTUU-TV reports that witnesses told investigators that moments before the fire began Friday morning they saw someone running from the driveway where the float was being constructed. Neighbors and the float's builders say they fear a hate crime. Investigators say they're still working. A report that concludes the fire was set would lead to a criminal investigation. The builders say they'll still improvise a float using the ashes and charred pieces

of the original.

#### Police: NY man blows off arm with party fireworks

ISLIP TERRACE, N.Y. (AP)—Police say a man lighting fireworks has blown off his arm at a party on New York's Long Island. Suffolk County police say 36-year-old Eric Smith was using a 3-foot long metal tube to shoot mortars from the street near his Islip Terrace home around 5:45 p.m. Saturday. Police believe he leaned over the device to ignite it and didn't get out of the way before an explosive shot out of the launcher. His left arm was severed at the shoulder. Smith was taken to Southside Hospital in serious condition while friends packed the lost limb in ice to try to save it. Police believe doctors will try to reattach his arm.

### BUSINESS BRIEFS

#### US largely ruling out NKorea in 2009 cyberattacks

WASHINGTON (AP)—U.S. officials have largely ruled out North Korea as the origin of a computer attack last July that took down U.S. and South Korean government websites, according to cybersecurity experts. But authorities are not much closer than they were a year ago to knowing exactly who did it—and why. In the days after the fast-moving, widespread attack, analysis pointed to North Korea as the likely starting point because code used in the attack included Korean language and other indicators. Experts now say there is no conclusive evidence that North Korea, or any other nation, orchestrated it.

#### New US satellite to monitor debris in Earth orbit

DENVER (AP)—A new U.S. Air Force satellite will provide the first full-time, space-based surveillance of hundreds of satellites and thousands of pieces of debris that could crash into American and allied assets circling the Earth. If all goes as planned, the Space-Based Space Surveillance satellite, scheduled for a July 8 launch from Vandenberg Air Force Base, Calif., will have an unobstructed, around-the-clock view of the increasingly heavy traffic in Earth orbit—something the Air Force doesn't have now. Currently, the Air Force relies on a ground-based network of radar and optical telescopes around the globe to monitor about 1,000 ac-



# Asia

## 15 killed, 48 hurt in RP bus crash

**CEBU, Philippines (AP)**—Fifteen people were killed after the brakes on a speeding bus packed with passengers failed and the vehicle slammed into a concrete barrier in the central Philippines. Another 48 people were injured, police said Sunday.

The bus carrying mostly homebound factory workers was traveling at high speed Saturday in Cebu province when it lost its brakes while maneuvering a downhill curve. The driver crashed the

vehicle into the cement barrier to avoid hitting a throng of pedestrians, police official Erson Digal said.

Most victims were killed inside the bus but five others died after being thrown from the vehicle on impact. The dead included a mother and son who died in an embrace, Digal said.

"It happened so fast. Residents heard the crash then the yells of so many people calling for help," Digal told The Associated Press by telephone.

The injured bus driver was taken into police custody for questioning after receiving treatment.

Saturday's crash in Toledo city was the second deadly bus accident in recent weeks in the area. A bus rented by Iranian medical students plunged into a ravine off a mountain road in Balamban town, near Toledo, killing 21 people last month.

Cebu is about 350 miles (560 kilometers) southeast of the capital Manila.

## 12 dead as bus plunges off road in SKorea

**SEOUL, South Korea (AP)**—A bus plunged off an elevated road as it headed to South Korea's main airport, killing 12 passengers and injuring another dozen people.

The bus struck a guardrail as it tried to avoid a broken-down car and plummeted about 30 feet (10 meters) down from the road Saturday in Incheon, west of Seoul, police official

Kang Bong-soo said.

A Korean-American man was among the dead. An official at Inha University Hospital in Incheon identified him as Kyu Bum Ye, citing his U.S. credit card. No further details were given. The official asked not to be named because he was not authorized to speak to media.

The injured were being treated in nearby hospitals, and some

were in serious condition.

The bus was carrying 23 passengers and the driver, Kang said. The injured included a 52-year-old American man, a 23-year-old Mongolian woman and two children aged 5 and 7.

The bridge, which opened last year, links Incheon and nearby Yeongjong Island—home to Incheon International Airport.



Rescuers look at a crashed bus in Incheon, South Korea, Saturday, July 3, 2010.

AP

### ASIAN BRIEFS

#### India gays celebrate 1 year since landmark verdict

**MUMBAI, India (AP)**—Hundreds of Indian gay rights activists and their supporters celebrated the first anniversary Friday of a landmark court ruling decriminalizing homosexuality and marking their gradual acceptance in the deeply conservative country. Members of Mumbai's gay community danced, sang, laughed and hugged each other in the city's sprawling Azad Maidan park as speakers recalled the long years of struggle to get Indian courts to change the country's law. On July 2 last year, the Delhi High Court struck down a law—Section 377 of the Indian Penal Code—that made sex between people of the same gender punishable by up to 10 years in prison. While actual criminal prosecutions were rare, the law was frequently

used to harass people.

#### Gen. Petraeus takes command of US, NATO forces

**KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)**—Gen. David Petraeus has formally assumed command of the 130,000-strong international force in Afghanistan at a time of rising casualties and growing skepticism about the direction of the nearly 9-year-old war. Petraeus received two flags—one for the U.S. and the other for NATO—during a ceremony attended by several hundred NATO and Afghan officials at a grassy area just outside coalition headquarters in Kabul. Petraeus succeeds Gen. Stanley McChrystal, who was fired last month for intemperate remarks he and his aides made to Rolling Stone magazine about Obama administration officials. On Saturday, Petraeus was at the U.S. Embassy

saying that cooperation between civilian and military efforts in Afghanistan "is not optional."

#### Kyrgyzstan swears in caretaker president

**BISHKEK, Kyrgyzstan (AP)**—Kyrgyzstan's provisional leader Roza Otunbayeva was sworn in as president Saturday, ushering in what the turbulent Central Asian nation's government hopes will be a new era of stability and democratic freedoms. Speaking after her inauguration, Otunbayeva, 59, hailed what she described as a momentous new era for Kyrgyzstan, which has endured months of political and ethnic violence since former President Kurmanbek Bakiyev was deposed in a bloody uprising in April amid widespread anger over falling living standards and rampant corruption.

# World

## Congo: At least 220 dead in oil explosion

**SANGE, Congo (AP)**—A tanker truck hauling fuel on a rural eastern Congo highway overturned, gushing oil and exploding in a massive fireball that killed about 220 bystanders, including many who had been watching the World Cup in flimsy roadside shacks, officials and witnesses said Saturday.

The Red Cross said at least 61 children and 36 women were among the dead. Witnesses said dozens of people had descended on the truck to siphon fuel illegally from the wreckage with jerry-cans and plastic buckets, apparently unaware of the danger.

U.N. peacekeepers rushed to evacuate more than 200



wounded from the scene by helicopter and ambulance, while Red Cross teams carried the charred bodies from the scene in body bags and buried them in two mass graves a few miles (kilometers) away.

The truck overturned as it was trying to pass a minibus late Friday near the village of Sange, around 20 miles (30 kilometers) north of Uvira, a town on the northern tip of Lake Tanganyika near the Burundi border, said Mana Lungwe, manager of the Congolese oil company that owns the truck. The vehicle began gushing oil, then burst into flames an hour later.

## Ecuadoreans, DEA seize drug-smuggling submarine



This photo released by the Ecuadorian National Police and Drug Enforcement Administration shows a diesel electric-powered submarine that was constructed in a remote jungle and captured near a tributary close to the Ecuador-Colombia border.

**WASHINGTON (AP)**—The Drug Enforcement Administration said Saturday it has helped seize a submarine capable of transporting tons of cocaine.

DEA officials said that the diesel electric-powered submarine was constructed in a remote jungle and captured near a tributary close to the Ecuador-Colombia border. Ecuadorian authorities seized the sub before it could make its maiden voyage. The sophisticated camouflaged vessel has a conning tower, periscope

and air-conditioning system. It measured about nine-feet-high from the deck plates to the ceiling and stretched nearly a 100 feet long. The DEA says it was built for trans-oceanic drug trafficking.

One person has been taken into custody. DEA Andean Regional Director Jay Bergman said the sub's nautical and payload capacity is a serious development.

Colombia's drug cartels have been known to use home-built submarines to smuggle large

amounts of cocaine past U.S. and Colombian patrol boats to Central America en route to the United States.

Colombian authorities have discovered these vessels from time to time in recent years.

In August 2007, U.S. forces intercepted a submarine-like vessel packed with tons of cocaine off the coast of Guatemala. And in July 2008, Mexico's navy seized a homemade submarine carrying a drug shipment off the Pacific coast.

## Van der Sloot files suit against initial lawyer

**LIMA, Peru (AP)**—Joran van der Sloot has sued the lawyer who represented him during a police interrogation on the day that authorities say the Dutchman confessed to killing a Peruvian woman, his current attorney said Saturday.

Maximo Altez told The Associated Press he filed suit Friday charging attorney Luz Romero Chinchay with misrepresentation, abuse of authority and conspiracy to commit a crime. Altez said the initial lawyer "pretended to be a public advocate when she is actually a private attorney."

"We have searched the name of Luz Romero Chinchay in the list of public defenders provided

by the Ministry of Justice and her name was not on that list. We do not know why the police called this lawyer. We want to know who paid for her because my client did not," Altez said.

Under Peruvian law, a crime suspect who does not have private counsel is provided with a public defender who works for the Ministry of Justice.

Altez said he also has filed suit charging the same offenses against Col. Miguel Canlla, chief of the police homicide squad, who led the interrogation of Van der Sloot.

Neither Romero Chinchay nor Canlla could be reached for comment.

A motion by Van der Sloot seeking to throw out his confession was dismissed June 25. Van der Sloot recanted the confession in a jailhouse interview with the Dutch newspaper De Telegraaf, claiming it was made under duress.

On the night of June 7, police announced that Van der Sloot had confessed to the murder of Stephany Flores on May 30 in his Lima hotel room. The charge carries a maximum penalty of 15 to 35 years in prison.

Van der Sloot also remains the sole suspect in the unresolved 2005 disappearance of U.S. teen Natalee Holloway on the Caribbean island of Aruba.



# Health & Fitness

## Breaking a sweat: Core muscles propel bike

By CYNTHIA BILLHARTZ GREGORIAN  
ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH

Ideally a cyclist is lanky on top and muscular on the bottom.

And his core...it has to be strong. Really strong.

So says cyclist Johnny Merli, a Category 1 criterium racer with DogFish Custom Apparel and a performance technician with BigShark Bicycle Co. in University City, Mo.

Strong core muscles allow cyclists to stay in an aggressive, streamlined position without back pain, Merli said. Strong arm muscles don't serve much purpose and add extra weight that can slow cyclists down.

Merli wants to be as light as possible without sacrificing power where it's needed—much like his bike, which can weigh as little as 14 pounds 13 ounces.

**JOHNNY MERLI:** Category 1 criterium racer with DogFish Custom Apparel and a performance technician with Big Shark Bicycle Co. in University City, Mo.

**Offseason:** Merli stays fit No-

vember through January by running and lifting light weights. He gains about 10 pounds each winter then loses it during cycling season when high mileage burns mega calories.

**Put in the miles:** To be competitive, you'll need to ride hard 20 hours a week during race season.

**Comfort factor:** Merli said he's never comfortable on his bike during races, since crit racers use ultra-lightweight road bikes that sacrifice comfort for speed. He's also breathing hard and is in an aggressive position that puts a lot of pressure on his hands and entire back for prolonged periods of time.

■ A criterium race or "crit" is timed and takes place on a looping course that's usually under 3.1 miles. Racers race for a determined amount of time, then, after the bell, go all out for a set number of additional laps, usually five. The first rider to cross the finish line without being lapped wins.

■ Circuit racing is the same as criterium, only the loop is between 3.1 miles and 6.2 miles.

■ Road racing covers 62 miles or more and is usually a single lap, though it can be

more. Stage races, such as the Tour de France, last several days or weeks and cover hundreds of miles.

■■■■■  
**HEIDI PRATHER:** Associate professor of physical medicine and rehabilitation at Washington University.

**Pros:** It's a great endurance sport that's easy on the joints. You can do it later in life.

**Cons:** You only move in one of the three planes for which the human body is designed. It's not a weight-bearing sport, so it doesn't strengthen bones, and, according to a recent study, may even decrease bone density.

**Cross-training:** Take up a sport, such as tennis or golf, that requires you to turn and torque and move in three planes. Do a weight-bearing exercise such as running, walking and weight-lifting to make your bones stronger.

**Preventing injuries:** Get your bike properly fitted at a local cycling shop. Fitting is highly individualized depending on biomechanics. If you have back or hip problems, you might need to see a physical therapist, who can either fit the bike herself or she can talk to your bike mechanic about what needs to be done.

## Closing in on genes that help people live to 100

**WASHINGTON (AP)**—The oldest among us seem to have chosen their parents well. Researchers closing in on the impact of family versus lifestyle find most people who live to 100 or older share some helpful genes.

But don't give up on diet and exercise just yet.

In an early step to understanding the pathways that lead to surviving into old age, researchers report in Thursday's online edition of the journal *Science* that a study of centenarians found most had a number of genetic variations in common.

That doesn't mean there's a quick test to determine who will live long and who won't—a healthy lifestyle

and other factors are also significant, noted the team led by Paola Sebastiani and Thomas T. Perls of Boston University.

Nevertheless, Perls said the research might point the way to determining who will be vulnerable to specific diseases sooner, and there may be a possibility, down the road, to help guide therapy for them.

The team looked at the genomes of 1,055 Caucasians born between 1890 and 1910 and compared them with 1,267 people born later.

By studying genetic markers the researchers were able to predict with 77 percent accuracy which gene groups came from people over 100.

"Seventy-seven percent is

very high accuracy for a genetic model," said Sebastiani. "But 23 percent error rate also shows there is a lot that remains to be discovered."

The centenarians could be fitted into 19 groups with different genetic signatures, they found. Some genes correlate with longer survival, others delayed the onset of various age-related diseases such as dementia.

"The signatures show different paths of longevity," Sebastiani said.

In general, the centenarians remained in good health longer than average, not developing diseases associated with old age until in their 90s, according to the study.

### Personal Trainer

## Pain can progress to frozen shoulder

Left untreated, a shoulder injury can cause permanent stiffness, but with treatment, chances of regaining pain-free mobility are good.

### Common causes

**Bursitis**, inflammation of fluid-filled sac in shoulder

**Tendinitis**, inflammation of a tendon joining muscle, bone

### Cycle of pain and disuse

- 1** Slight injury or minor problem prevents use of joint
- 2** Shoulder becomes stiff, painful
- 3** Disuse leads to more stiffness, pain
- 4** That causes more disuse
- 5** Arm can hardly move; pain intense enough to interrupt sleep
- 6** Pain may spread to upper arm, neck
- 7** Condition slowly worsens, then remains the same for several months
- 8** After slow improvement, pain may be gone, but shoulder's range of motion is permanently reduced

### Treatment

After injury, move shoulder gently as much as possible and use pain-killers such as aspirin or ibuprofen

Get medical advice if injured shoulder does not improve promptly

Source: "AMA Family Medical Guide," "The Johns Hopkins Medical Handbook"  
© 2010 MCT  
Graphic: Paul Trap

## Death and Funeral Announcement

### Maria Borja Roberto

Lovingly known as "Chibi Andres"

#### Predeceased by:

Andres Ada Roberto (Husband)  
Elizabeth Roberto Ordonez (Daughter)  
Jose Castro and Agueda Santos Borja (Parents)  
Juan Sablan and Engracia Ada Roberto (Parents-in-Law)  
Trinidad Borja DeLeon Guerrero (Sister)  
Crisencia Borja Villagomez (Sister) / Felix C. Villagomez  
Indalecio Santos Borja (Brother)  
Margarita Santos Borja (Sister)  
Grabella Borja Camacho (Sister) / Joaquin R. Camacho  
Carmen Borja Ichihara (Sister) / Jesus SM. Ichihara  
Ana Borja Roberto (Sister)  
Teresita Borja Lizama (Sister)  
Manuel Miyasaki Babauta (Brother)

#### Survived By:

Lucinda Roberto / Crispin Manglona Sablan  
Christopher / Nicole Sablan - (Christian, Maria, Isabella)  
Crystal Sablan - (Isaiah, Seth)

Children of †Elizabeth R. / Bartholomew Ordonez  
Gerard R. Indalecio /  
Lealynn F. Valdez (Damian)  
Jaycee R. Ordonez  
Gemma R. Ordonez  
Archiez Pomares

Joseph B. Roberto

David B. Roberto

Dominic Palacios Sampson  
Yerma Darcel Boyer Roberto  
(Hayden B. Roberto)  
Ashley Monique Boyer Roberto  
David (DJ) Boyer Roberto

Andres Borja / Dorothy Pangelinan Roberto

Andrew David P. Roberto  
Joshua Cole P. Roberto  
Aiyisha Marie P. Roberto  
Austin Luke P. Roberto  
Jeremiah Jude P. Roberto

Celina Roberto / Franklin Reyes Babauta

William R. Babauta / Frances Tudela  
(Jacob Collin T. Babauta)  
Francine Therese R. Babauta  
Kolina R. Babauta  
Franklin R. Babauta, Jr.

Raymond B. Roberto / Zenaída C. Javier

Charay Sasamoto  
Andrea Javier Roberto

Julie Roberto (Reared Daughter) /

Juan Q. Inos & Children

Jacoba / Carmelito Asuncion & Children (Sister &  
Brother-in-Law)

Felipe Ada and Ketsuda Roberto (Brother-in-Law)  
Vicente C. Lizama & Children (Brother-in-Law)  
Juan A. DeLeon Guerrero & Children (Brother-in-Law)  
Primitiva Apatang Babauta & Children (Sister-in-Law)

Daily Mass is being offered at 6:00 a.m. at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Cathedral and 6:00 p.m. at San Antonio Church. Nightly rosary is recited at 7:00 p.m. at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Cathedral.

Mass of Christian Burial will be on Tuesday, July 6, 2010 at 11:00 a.m. at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Cathedral.



## Life & Style

# A June wedding for Perry and Pebbles

**P**erry Atalig Inos Jr., son of Judge Perry Borja Inos and Debra Atalig Inos, was joined before God and man with Pebbles Basilgo, daughter of Alma Basilgo Mesa and Romulo Masongsong, on June 26, 2010, in resplendent ceremonies held at the San Vicente Church on Saipan.

The wedding rites were officiated by Rev. Fr. Rey Rosal, with choir music provided by the Vox Angelic Choir and pianist Andy. The entrance song, *From this Moment*, and exit song, *Always*, were sung by Patrick and Joy.

The wedding entourage was composed of Sheila Comaingking as maid of honor and bridesmaids Rachelle Pancho and Franchete Santos. Joseph M. Inos, Jr. was the best man while the groom's men were Alex Lauron and Darwin Barbo. The

flower girls were Junice B Masga, Elizabeth B. Inos, Mia P. Sablan, and Desiree I. Guerrero; ring bearer was Jaime Joe B. Inos; and coin bearer was Dylan Joseph B. Inos.

The newlyweds' godparents were Angelina Villagomez, Alfred Ada, China Alkuino and Ronillow Alkuino, Joaquina Chong, Kevin Atalig, Joey Camero, Lillian Indalecio, and Dr. Martin Rohringer.

The reception immediately followed at the Magellan Restaurant of the Pacific Islands Club, with over 400 guests from Saipan, Tinian, Rota, Guam, and the Philippines wishing the newlyweds lasting happiness and health.

Reana Inos Takai and Ana Blossom Hocog Inos performed emceeing duties.

Mrs. Debra A. Inos acted as the wedding planner and coordinator, assisted by reception coordinator Ernie Molina.

### The Couple's Poem

*This day I married my friend,  
the one I laugh with as we  
share life's wondrous zest  
as we find new enjoyments  
and experience all that's best.  
The one I live for because  
the world seems brighter  
as our happy times are  
better and our burdens feel  
much lighter.  
The one I love with every  
fiber of my soul.  
We used to feel vaguely  
incomplete, now together we  
are whole.*



From left, Alma Mesa, bride Pebbles Inos, groom Perry Inos Jr., and Estrellieta King.

RAINBOW COLOR



From left, Joey Camero, Ronillo Alkuino, China Alkuino, Angelina Villagomez, Dr. Martin Rohringer, Pebbles Inos, Perry Inos, Ray Chong, Joaquina Chong, Kevin Atalig, Sandra Atalig, Alfred Ada, and Lillian Indalecio.

RAINBOW COLOR



The bride and groom are joined by, front, from left, Desiree I. Guerrero, Mia Sablan, Junice Masga Elizabeth Inos, Dylan Inos, and Jaime Joe Inos. Back, from left, are Rachelle Pancho, Franchete Santos, Sheila Comaingking, Joseph Inos Jr., Alex Lauron, and Darwin Barbo.

RAINBOW COLOR



The groom's parents, Debra A. Inos and Judge Perry B. Inos, pose with the newlyweds.

RAINBOW COLOR



From left, Joseph Inos, Estrellieta King, Alma Mesa, Pebbles Inos, Perry Inos Jr., Debra A. Inos, Judge Perry B. Inos, Anamaria Inos (groom sister), Dixie Inos (groom's sister), and Carmen Masga.

RAINBOW COLOR



## Photos of grandma's house are picture-perfect memories

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN  
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

DEAR ABBY: After Grandma passed away at the age of 101, the thought of dismantling her home and dispersing her belongings was heartbreaking because her house had remained unchanged for so many years. I knew we couldn't keep everything, but never seeing her house again was too much to bear.

I asked my cousin to take photos of every room, every hallway, every closet and every view inside and out, so I could make an album of "Grandma's House." Now I have an album of photographs that makes me feel like I'm standing in the middle of it again. My cousin even photographed the auction in which we sold the things none of the family wanted or couldn't fit in their homes.

With all these reality TV programs that deal with hoarding and clutter, I wanted to share this idea as a healthy alternative to keeping "things" in place of memories. Looking at my photo album is even better than having the actual items, because everything is in the setting I remember. What I'm trying to convey is—sometimes you really can't take it with you, and a picture is the next best thing.

JULIE IN BRADENTON, FLA.

**DEAR JULIE: Thank you for a valuable suggestion. I'm sure I'm not the only grandchild who wishes that she had thought of it when my grandparents' home was being dismantled. I'm sure that looking at your album brings back a multitude of happy memories.**

■■■

DEAR ABBY: I love my fiance, "Charlie," dearly, but I have one problem. When I first met him he was wearing some platform boots I thought were out of style. He claimed he wore them because he's short. I don't think that's a good excuse. I think he just likes them.

I have mentioned to Charlie numerous times that those boots have had it and nobody wears them anymore. He gets upset when I tell him. I think he's old-fashioned about some things. When we go shopping, I show him other types of boots—to no avail. How can I get him to start wearing footwear that is more up-to-date and looks better?

CAN'T GET THROUGH, HAMMOND, LA.

**DEAR CAN'T GET THROUGH: You can't. And the more you nag Charlie, the more stubborn he will become. You can encourage him. Point out other styles of boots that will give him the "boost" in height he thinks he requires. But in the end, if you don't accept Charlie just the way he is, he may end up giving YOU the "boot."**

■■■

DEAR ABBY: I host many casual backyard parties and invite my family as well as my husband's. My family always declines for one reason or another, even when they are the only ones invited—so I have quit asking them to most of my gatherings because I'm always rejected.

When they get wind of a barbecue that we have had, they become offended that they weren't invited. I explained that because they always decline, I assumed they wouldn't be interested. Abby, must I continue to invite them so they can reject me?

OFFENDED AND HURT IN DES MOINES

**DEAR OFFENDED AND HURT: Not in my book. You'll have less pain if you accept that you can't please everyone. It appears that with your family you are damned if you do and damned if you don't, and I see no reason why you should continue to invite anyone who continually refuses to come.**

■■■

*Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at [www.DearAbby.com](http://www.DearAbby.com) or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.*

■■■

*For everything you need to know about wedding planning, order "How to Have a Lovely Wedding." Send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$6 (U.S. funds only) to: Dear Abby—Wedding Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)*



*Dear Abby*

## Northwest tribe revels in 'Twilight' spotlight

SEATTLE (AP)—The leader of the Quileute Nation in northwest Washington first began hearing her tribe had a role in the popular "Twilight Saga" from fans clamoring to know more about the place where a vampire tale of teenage love unfolds.

Some fans sent e-mails. The most dedicated among them made trips to the remote reservation that is home to the series' heartthrob werewolf Jacob Black.

"The interest in our tribe was a surprise, a good surprise," tribal Chairwoman Anna Rose Counsell-Geyer said. "I thought to myself, people are going to actually get to know the Quileute and we are going to be recognized as a people. The real Quileute."

That was a couple of years ago. With "Eclipse," the series' third movie in theaters now, the 750-member Quileute Nation is reveling in the "Twilight" spotlight, attempting to capitalize on the blockbuster's massive financial pull and welcoming new interest in the tribe's culture.

At their Oceanside Resort, the tribe is opening a cabin decorated in a wolf theme, a shout out to Jacob and the Quileute's own origin story, which begins with a transformation from wolves to people.

At a Quileute store in the reservation town of La Push, hand-made beanie hats with "Jacob" stitched on them sell for nearly \$35. There's also a "Jacob's Java" espresso stand.



AP

This undated photo provided by the Quileute Indian Tribe shows their small reservation at La Push, Wash. on the south side of the Quillayute River, with Rialto Beach and the Pacific Ocean at the upper left.

"This is historical. This is going to be imprinted on people's lives for generations to come," Counsell-Geyer said.

Central to the "Twilight Saga" is a love triangle among human teenager Bella Swan (Kristen Stewart), vampire Edward Cullen (Robert Pattinson) and Jacob (Taylor Lautner).

The Quileute's homeland—the place where they have lived and hunted for centuries—serves as the backdrop to author Stephenie Meyer's saga, with the stunning imagery of rocks and cliffs rising along the Pacific Ocean.

Four hours west of Seattle, the Quileute reservation is on the far and remote side of the rain-soaked Olympic Peninsula. The reservation's boundaries are

confined within a square mile.

In the movies and books, the tribe's folklore is meshed into the role of the Wolf Pack, a group of young Quileute men who shapeshift into wolves. Jacob and other Wolf Pack members guard the reservation from vampires.

For Chris Eyre, a Cheyenne and Arapaho filmmaker, the key aspect of the Twilight series is that it shows Native Americans in a contemporary light.

Eyre directed the well-received 1998 film "Smoke Signals," which focused on a coming-of-age story of two teenagers living on the Coeur D'Alene Indian Reservation in Idaho.

Like "Smoke Signals," the "Twilight Saga" marks a departure from Hollywood's long tradi-

tion of portraying Native Americans as a people from the past.

In the saga's second chapter, "New Moon," Jacob talks about going to school on the reservation and rides motorcycles.

In "Eclipse," Jacob's friends emerge from a small house in their opening scene shirtless and wearing shorts—a now-signature look for the Wolf Pack. They laugh and tease Jacob about his crush on Bella.

"I think as long as the werewolves aren't wearing loin-cloths, it is a good step forward," Eyre said from Los Angeles, where he is finishing an episode of the NBC show "Friday Night Lights."

"It's so important to have Native people in contemporary roles ... that's where I think we're lacking. We want to see Native people in 2010. I think we're tired of seeing Native people in 1860," he said.

When the first movie was filming in Oregon, a group of tribal members visited the set and met with Lautner, who interviewed them.

"One thing they do that I noticed is they don't need to be told to what to do. If the trash is getting full, they empty it out. They're always helping each other. They're always there for each other. So I just want to make sure I can bring that part of Jacob alive," Lautner told MTV in 2008.

In that interview, Lautner said he was part Native American.



### ENTERTAINMENT TIDBITS

#### Ilene Woods, voice of Cinderella, dies at 81

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Ilene Woods, the voice of Cinderella in Disney's animated classic, has died. She was 81. Woods died Thursday of causes related to Alzheimer's disease at a nursing home in Canoga Park, her husband, Ed Shaughnessy, tells the Los Angeles Times. Woods was an 18-year-old radio singer in 1948 when she recorded a demo for an upcoming Disney feature. Two days later, Walt Disney himself auditioned her and she went on to voice the title character's speaking and singing parts for 1950's "Cinderella," about a mistreated stepdaughter who finds her Prince Charming. Woods sang on the Perry Como and Arthur Godfrey shows in the 1950s before retiring from show business in the early 1970s.

#### Judge drops case over McConaughey surf scuffle

LOS ANGELES (AP)—A judge has dropped charges against two surfers accused of attacking a celebrity photographer shooting photos of Matthew McConaughey on a Malibu beach. Los Angeles County district attorney's spokeswoman Sandi Gibbons says the charges were dismissed Friday after prosecutors decided against starting a third trial against the

surfers. A jury deadlocked last month on the misdemeanor battery case against Skylar Peak and Philip Hildebrand. Peak and Hildebrand were accused of confronting several paparazzi who showed up to shoot photos of the "Fool's Gold" star on a Malibu beach two years ago.

#### Kelsey Grammer, wife, ending 13-year marriage

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Kelsey Grammer and his wife are divorcing after nearly 13 years of marriage. Court records show Camille Grammer filed for divorce from the "Cheers" and "Frasier" star Thursday in Los Angeles. Grammer and his wife were married in August 1997 and have two children, ages 8 and 5. Camille Grammer is seeking physical custody of the children and visitation for the 55-year-old actor. The filing cites "irreconcilable differences" for the breakup but offers no details.

#### Melissa Etheridge files to end partnership with ex

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Court records show Melissa Etheridge has filed to make her breakup with former girlfriend Tammy Lynn Michaels official. The singer filed to dissolve her domestic partnership with Michaels on Friday in Los Angeles. They announced their

separation in April, and the rocker told Oprah Winfrey it was mutual, but "sad." The two held a commitment ceremony in 2003 and registered a domestic partnership in August 2005. Michaels gave birth to twins from an anonymous sperm donor in 2006. The 49-year-old Etheridge cited irreconcilable differences for the split in court filings. She is asking to share joint custody of their 3-year-old children.

#### Paris Hilton's companion ordered to leave Africa

PORT ELIZABETH, South Africa (AP)—The former Playboy playmate convicted of possessing marijuana while accompanying Paris Hilton to a World Cup game is persona non grata in South Africa. Ronnie Mamopa, a spokesman for the immigration department, said Saturday that Jennifer Rovero had two weeks to leave the country, and would not be welcome back for at least two years. "We are saying she must go," Mamopa told The Associated Press. "The person is found in illegal possession of an illegal substance, convicted by a duly constituted court of law. So, we have to act." Hilton had been arrested with Rovero after Friday's Brazil-Netherlands match in Port Elizabeth on suspicion of possession of marijuana, then had

the case dropped at a midnight court hearing.

#### Wash. county: Records show Tonya Harding marriage

VANCOUVER, Wash. (AP)—Clark County officials say their records show Tonya Harding has married again. Deputy Auditor Karen Updike told The Columbian newspaper that she issued a marriage license to the 39-year-old Harding and 42-year-old Joseph Jens Price on June 23. She says she remembers the disgraced former Olympian as "a very talented skater." The auditor's office said it received the signed license back on Tuesday that showed the wedding had taken place. The newspaper says the couple resides in Yacolt but there were no phone listings for Harding or Price. The paper also says that Pastor Lloyd Ward of the Community Church of God officiated at the wedding. A message left late Friday night for him was not immediately returned. A national figure skating champion in 1991 and a two-time Olympian, Harding in 1994 was banned for life from the U.S. Figure Skating Association because of her role in an attack on fellow skater Nancy Kerrigan. Harding's then-husband Jeff Gillooly helped plan the assault. Harding later had a short career as a professional boxer.



Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson



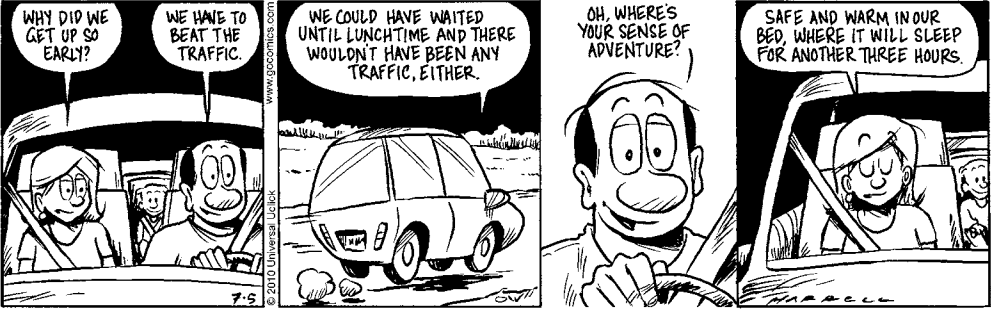
Garfield®

By Jim Davis



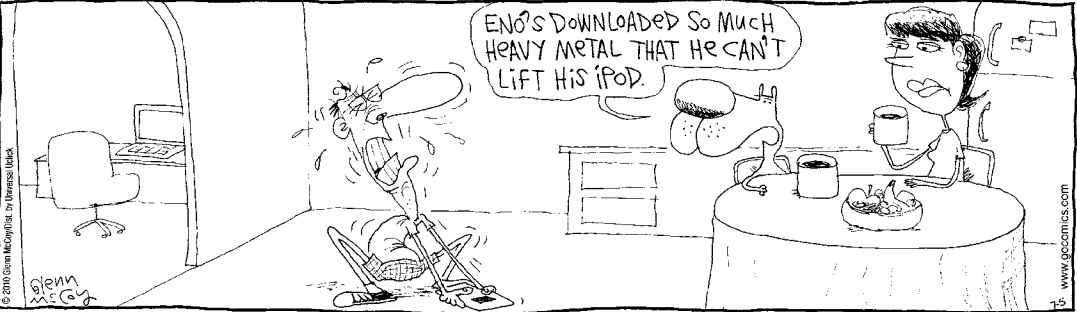
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset



The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS 35 Bygone Peruvian 36 Says grace, e.g. 37 South China Sea 40 Abu Dhabi's land (Abbr.) 41 Mysteri-ous letter 42 15-Across partner 47 Came down 48 Paid attention 49 Alluring 50 Blunder 51 Went away

DOWN 21 Mary who married Abe 22 Race place 23 River-mouth deposit 25 Follower 26 Thought 27 Spruced up 29 Barn-roof adorner 31 French posses-sive 33 Octoge-narian's next milestone 34 Form of embroi-dery 36 History 37 Lingerie items 38 Legisla-tion 39 Alterna-tive to Windows 40 Cold War nation (Abbr.) 43 Melody 44 Single 45 Ump 46 Banned bug spray

Solution time: 24 mins.

Saturday's answer 7-5

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Kathryn Erbe, 45; Edie Falco, 47; Huey Lewis, 60; Shirley Knight, 74

Happy Birthday: As long as you don't take anything for granted, you will excel this year. Discover a side of yourself that is willing to adapt to change and whatever challenges come your way. You may want greater stability and security in your life but don't lose out because you are caught in the old ways of doing things. Your numbers are 2, 13, 17, 21, 28, 35, 42

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Regrets are a waste of time, along with fretting over things you can do absolutely nothing about. Get serious about how you want your home and surroundings to be. Don't let someone else's uncertainties stop you from moving forward. \*\*\*

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Lay your plans out for all to see and you will get positive responses. Do your own research and stick to the rules, no matter what you are pursuing. It will be forgotten details that lead to setbacks. \*\*\*

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Take your time and do things right. Your talents will not go to waste—in fact, by focusing and doing a bang-up job, you will attract the types of people and projects you like to work on. Love is heading your way. \*\*\*\*

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Put in extra hours working from home and you will outdo any competition you face. Avoiding people who can rile you will be half the

battle. Follow your game plan step by step until you are satisfied with the results. \*\*

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Let others know what you are trying to accomplish. Don't be afraid to brag about things you have already achieved. Romance is looking very good and time should be put aside to find love or nurture your current relationship. \*\*\*\*\*

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): You will be taken advantage of if you don't clarify what you will and won't do. Paying for others or donating to an organization won't help you. Instead, put your money into your future, your home or a good long-term investment. \*\*\*

LIBRA (Sept. 23- Oct. 22): Folding to demands or ultimatums will not keep the peace. Instead, remove yourself from any situation causing you discomfort. Overreacting will end in irreconcilable differences. A partnership must be based on equality in order to work. \*\*\*

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Forward thinking will lead to prosperity. You will learn through trial and error but, in the end, you will have something really good to offer. Put in the time, effort and cash to make it happen. \*\*\*

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Love is highlighted and should play a major role in your life decisions. Apply caution while traveling or pursuing anything that entails following rules or regulations. \*\*\*\*\*

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Make sure you are totally clear about what's being asked of you. You don't want to

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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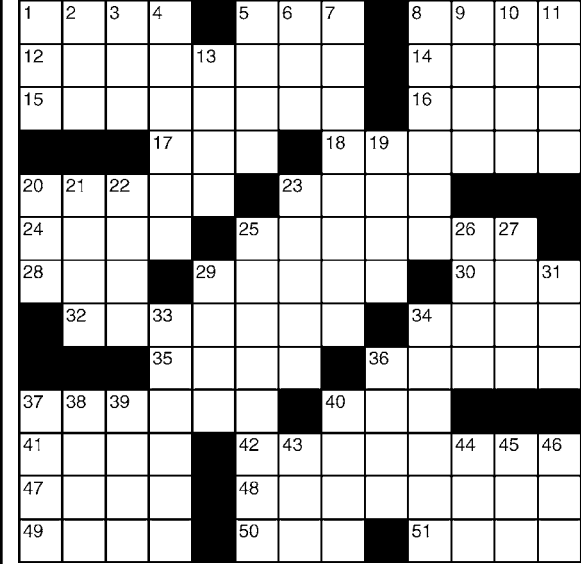
leave anything to chance, especially if there is money involved. Your emotions may interfere if someone you love gives you an ultimatum. Be strong and prepared to do your own thing. \*\*

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Love is all around you but is not without its trials and tribulations. If you aren't honest about your past and your intentions, you can't maintain a good relationship with someone who has the potential to be good for you professionally or romantically. \*\*

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Get together with creative people who can help you flush out your ideas and bring you the help you need to speed up the process. A business or personal partnership will show greater promise and will enhance your life. \*\*\*\*

Birthday Baby: You are sensitive, loving and determined to get ahead. You are bound by tradition and loyalty. You are assertive about moral issues.

Eugenia's Web sites: [eugenialast.com](http://eugenialast.com) for confidential consultations, [myspace.com/eugenialast](http://myspace.com/eugenialast) for Eugenia's blog, [astroadvice.com](http://astroadvice.com) for fun



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku By Dave Green

Difficulty Level ★ 7/05

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Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Saturday's SUDOKU Answer

Difficulty Level \*\*\*\* 7/05

WONDERWORD By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

HUMIDITY IN THE AIR Solution: 10 letters

H S H E T A R O P A V E S I R  
Y E E H E C U D E R M E N S E  
D S A Y G T R S A U R D P A L  
R A T V S O N T R U E R C T A  
A G N I Y E I B T X E O H U T  
T M D K D O M A C C O I N R I  
E E U N I A R I L C W A A V  
R N O S A E S P S K E D T T E  
U C L E P T I S R T R A U E T  
S R C M E T E E N S U E R D E  
S U E A A N H E R E T R A S F  
E T M T P T S N I K S I L O O  
R Z I M A S W E A T I O C A G  
P O A E W D I R R O T L K G  
N D W H E R U S A E M O H C Y

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Brume, Clear, Close, Cloud, Condense, Cool, Dampness, Dank, Evaporate, Foggy, Gases, Haze, Heat, Heavy, Home, Hydrate, Index, Measure, Mist, Moisture, Natural, Outside, Precipitation, Pressure, Rain, Ratio, Read, Reduce, Relative, Rise, Saturated, Season, Skin, Soak, Steam, Sticky, Summer, Sweat, Temperature, Thick, Torrid, Water, Weather, Wetness

Last Saturday's Answer: Extended

To order THE COLLECTED WONDERWORD, Volume 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30 and 31 send \$5.95 each (US funds only) payable to Universal Uclick plus \$3 postage for the first book only. \$1 path for each additional book. Send to: WONDERWORD, 1130 Walnut St., Kansas City, MO 64105 or call toll-free, 1-800-642-6480. Order online at [upuzzles.com](http://upuzzles.com).



# CLASSIFIED ADS



## CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES

Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

### CLASSIFIED LINER ADS

Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 6-day run on both print and online edition, for as low as \$27 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS	(PRINT)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	\$15	\$27
• 5-Liner	\$24	\$39
• 3-Liner with picture	\$24	\$42
• 5-Liner with picture	\$36	\$57

### ADVERTISING DEADLINE

#### Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

Saturday Issue:  
■ All ads placed Friday before 12 noon will come out Saturday issue and anything placed thereafter will be published on Monday issue.

### CANCELLATION

#### Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

### REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

### CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

### ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the Saipan Tribune are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

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Email: administration@cda.gov.mp • Website: www.cda.gov.mp

### NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

The Commonwealth Development Authority will put up for sale, its 2000 TOYOTA TACOMA TRUCK located at its SAIPAN OFFICE. The sell will be made by competitive sealed bids. Minimum bid acceptable for the vehicle is \$3,000 and bids should be submitted by 10:00 a.m. Friday, July 23, 2010 at the CDA Office, Wakins Building, Gualo Rai. Bid opening and award to the highest bidder will follow right after the 10:00 a.m. closing. All bids will be publicly announced.

All sealed bids must contain the following information.

- Full Name, Address and Contact number
- Bid Amount

Full payment of the bid amount is required before the property can be removed from the CDA Office. Such payment shall be in U.S. Currency or Certified Check made payable on demand in U.S. Currency to the Commonwealth Development Authority. Payment must be received by 3:00 p.m., Friday, July 23, 2010. Failure to make full payment will cause award to be null and void and the next highest bid will be considered.

CDA reserves the right to reject any and all bids for any reason and to waive any defects in said bids or any of them if in its sole opinion to do so would be in the best interest of CDA.

The vehicle will be sold as is and without warranty. Inspection of the vehicle is recommended and may be arranged with Mr. Joaquin Flores any time between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. on weekdays except holidays.

#### VEHICLE SPECIFICATION

MAKE:	TOYOTA
MODEL:	Tacoma Regular Cab Short Bed
COLOR:	White
YEAR:	2000
MECHANICAL:	4 Cylinder/Automatic/Power Steering and Power Brakes
MILEAGE:	125K
OTHER FEATURES:	Air Condition AM/FM Radio Cassette
CONDITION:	Fair

/s/ MANUEL A. SABLAN  
Executive Director

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J.C. Tenorio Enterprises, Inc.  
Human Resources Office  
Joeten Center, Susupe

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2 storey concrete house-walled/gated,  
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Barracks & Property for long term lease. Lower Navy Hill, accross American Memorial Park Tennis Court. Good for commercial use. If interested, pls. call 287-7676

### Lihua Merchandise

Located in Chalan Kanoa across Pacific Gardenia

#### Services:

- Flower (artificial) Arrangement
- We sew curtains, couch cover (upholstery)
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We also have couches for sale at a very low price

### 40' CONTAINER FOR SALE

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Including roof. Door with lock. With electrical lighting, shelving and aircon. Must be removed at buyer's expense. 234-3814

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## NOTICE OF ZONING BOARD MEETING

### NOTICE OF ZONING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING

for  
Triple J Saipan Inc. (Sandy Beach Homes)

The public is invited to attend and provide comments at a Zoning Board public hearing on this Conditional Use application #2010-1474 containing lots 008 H 26, 012 H 33, 012 H 34, 012 H 35 and 012 H 36, Chalan Kanoa Dist#4 for Multifamily / Apartments.

**Date:** July 12, 2010 (Monday)  
**Time:** 6:00 pm  
**Place:** Zoning Office, 2nd Floor,  
Joeten Dandan Building, Saipan.

Above application may be viewed at the Zoning Office, 2nd Floor, Joeten Dandan Building, Saipan. Comments on the projects may be submitted orally or in writing at the public hearing. Written comments may also be submitted in writing to the Zoning Office no later than 4:30 pm, July 13, 2010. Written comments may be submitted via e-mail to staff@zoning.gov.mp, via US mail to Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950, or delivered to the Zoning Office, 2nd floor, Joeten Building, DanDan, Saipan.

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the public hearing, or if you require assistance, please contact Therese T. Ogomoro, at 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq. & Division 3 of Title 10 CMC).

/s/ Herminia M. Fusco, Board Chairperson

## NOTICE OF ZONING BOARD MEETING

### NOTICE OF ZONING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING

for  
Star 1 Corporation (Star ATV Tracking)

The public is invited to attend and provide comments at a Zoning Board public hearing on this Conditional Use application #2010-1466, lot 1673-1-6, Kannat Tabla for Amusement, Outdoor.

**Date:** July 12, 2010 (Monday)  
**Time:** 6:00 pm  
**Place:** Zoning Office, 2nd Floor,  
Joeten Dandan Building, Saipan.

Above application may be viewed at the Zoning Office, 2nd Floor, Joeten Dandan Building, Saipan. Comments on the projects may be submitted orally or in writing at the public hearing. Written comments may also be submitted in writing to the Zoning Office no later than 4:30 pm, July 13, 2010. Written comments may be submitted via e-mail to staff@zoning.gov.mp, via US mail to Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950, or delivered to the Zoning Office, 2nd floor, Joeten Building, DanDan, Saipan.

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the public hearing, or if you require assistance, please contact Therese T. Ogomoro, at 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq. & Division 3 of Title 10 CMC).

/s/ Herminia M. Fusco, Board Chairperson



## PUBLIC NOTICE REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL MPLT RFP No. 10-01

### INSURANCE BROKERAGE SERVICES

#### SERVICES REQUIRED

The Marianas Public Land Trust, a public trust of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, is inviting interested insurance brokers, singularly or in partnership with others, to submit technical proposals for providing insurance brokerage services to MPLT. Interested insurance brokers must be licensed in the Northern Mariana Islands and have a current business license.

#### THE PROCESS

The process will consist of the receipt and evaluation of sealed proposals for technical services. The proposals should demonstrate the ability of the brokers to perform and provide the services enumerated in the Scope of Services stipulated in the Request For Proposal (RFP). At the conclusion of the evaluation process, the highest rated broker will be selected to negotiate fees for services with MPLT. If successful, the broker will be appointed as MPLT's exclusive insurance representative on a year-to-year basis for a period not to exceed three years.

#### SCOPE OF SERVICES

The selected broker shall assist MPLT in obtaining insurance coverages for Property and Liability insurance, Automobile, Crime, and Director's & Officer's Liability insurance and providing such other services as may be subsequently negotiated.

#### PACKAGES & SUBMITTAL DATE

Proposal packages will be available beginning June 22, 2010 at the MPLT Administrative Office, Capital Hill Unit 1313, between the hours of 8:00 A.M. and 5:00 P.M., Monday through Friday, excluding Holidays. Five copies of the sealed proposals shall be submitted to Mr. Phillip Mendiola-Long, MPLT Chairman, P.O. Box 501089, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than 4:00 P.M., Wednesday, July 21, 2010.

#### EVALUATION

The factors to be used in evaluating the proposals shall be the criteria set forth in the RFP. Each criteria will be assigned a grading up to ten points; the proposer receiving the highest overall score will be selected to negotiate a fee for services. The MPLT reserves the right to reject any proposal deemed not in the best interest of MPLT.

If there are any questions relative to this notice, interested parties are asked to contact Ms. Barbara Reyes during the hours stated above.

/s/ **PHILLIP MENDIOLA-LONG**  
MPLT Chairman/Contracting Officer



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands  
State Board of Education  
**Public School System**  
P. O. Box 501370, Saipan, MP 96950



## INVITATION FOR BID PSS IFB 10-070

### "GENERAL REPAIR WORK FOR SAIPAN SOUTHERN HIGH SCHOOL"

The Public School System and the State Board of Education are soliciting sealed bids for **General Repair Work at Saipan Southern High School** on Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The Scope of Work and project package is available beginning on June 21, 2010 at Pacific Quick Print for a fee of \$68.55.

There will be a mandatory pre-bid conference on July 9, 2010, at 8:00 a.m. at Saipan Southern High School Cafeteria in Koblerville, Saipan. Bids will not be accepted from any bidder who failed to attend this pre-bid conference. Questions may be submitted in writing to Fax No. (670) 323-1075 or emailed to Ms. Elizabeth S. Balajadia at [lizb@emchen.com](mailto:lizb@emchen.com) no later than July 13, 2010, 4:30 p.m.

All bids must be in a sealed envelope marked, IFB-10-070, and submitted with one (1) original and three (3) copies to the PSS Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor of the NMI Retirement Fund Building in Capitol Hill, Saipan, no later than 9:00 a.m., local time, July 21, 2010. If no notices of intent to bid were received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be publicly opened at 9:00 a.m. local time July 23, 2010 in the 2nd floor Conference Room, NMI Retirement Fund Building.

Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to Bid. Notices of Intent to Bid must be received by the Procurement Officer no later than 9:00 a.m. local time on July 21, 2010 and may be transmitted via fax to (670) 664-3791 or email to [robert.florian@cnmipss.org](mailto:robert.florian@cnmipss.org). For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and three copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than July 21, 2010 and must be received no later than July 30, 2010 in which case all bids will be opened at 9:00 a.m., August 3, 2010.

**This project is funded under the AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT (ARRA) with "Buy America" Provisions.**

/s/ Rita A. Sablan, Ed. D.  
Commissioner of Education

/s/ Robert Florian  
Procurement Officer



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands  
State Board of Education  
**Public School System**  
P. O. Box 501370, Saipan, MP 96950



## INVITATION FOR BID PSS IFB 10-071

### "GENERAL REPAIR WORK FOR KAGMAN HIGH SCHOOL"

The Public School System and the State Board of Education are soliciting sealed bids for **General Repair Work at Kagman High School** on Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The Scope of Work and project package is available beginning on June 21, 2010 at Pacific Quick Print for a fee of \$73.40.

There will be a mandatory pre-bid conference on July 9, 2010, at 1:30 p.m. at Kagman High School Cafeteria Saipan in Kagman, Saipan. Bids will not be accepted from any bidder who failed to attend this pre-bid conference. Questions may be submitted in writing to Fax No. (670) 323-1075 or emailed to Ms. Elizabeth S. Balajadia at [lizb@emchen.com](mailto:lizb@emchen.com) no later than July 13, 2010, 4:30 p.m.

All bids must be in a sealed envelope marked, IFB-10-071, and submitted with one (1) original and three (3) copies to the PSS Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor of the NMI Retirement Fund Building in Capitol Hill, Saipan, no later than 9:30 a.m., local time, July 21, 2010. If no notices of intent to bid were received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be publicly opened at 9:30 a.m. local time July 23, 2010 in the 2nd floor Conference Room, NMI Retirement Fund Building.

Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to Bid. Notices of Intent to Bid must be received by the Procurement Officer no later than 9:30 a.m. local time on July 21, 2010 and may be transmitted via fax to (670) 664-3791 or email to [robert.florian@cnmipss.org](mailto:robert.florian@cnmipss.org). For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and three copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than July 21, 2010 and must be received no later than July 30, 2010 in which case all bids will be opened at 9:30 a.m., August 3, 2010.

**This project is funded under the AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT (ARRA) with "Buy America" Provisions.**

/s/ Rita A. Sablan, Ed. D.  
Commissioner of Education

/s/ Robert Florian  
Procurement Officer



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands  
State Board of Education  
**Public School System**  
P. O. Box 501370, Saipan, MP 96950



## INVITATION FOR BID PSS IFB 10-077

### "GENERAL REPAIR WORK FOR MARIANAS HIGH SCHOOL"

The Public School System and the State Board of Education are soliciting sealed bids for **General Repair Work of Marianas High School** on Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The Scope of Work and project package is available beginning on June 21, 2010 at Pacific Quick Print for a fee of \$73.65.

There will be a mandatory pre-bid conference on July 9, 2010, at 9:30 a.m. at Marianas High School Conference Room, Building H, Susupe, Saipan. Bids will not be accepted from any bidder who failed to attend this pre-bid conference. Questions may be submitted in writing to Fax No. (670) 323-1075 or emailed to Ms. Elizabeth S. Balajadia at [lizb@emchen.com](mailto:lizb@emchen.com) no later than July 13, 2010, 4:30 p.m.

All bids must be in a sealed envelope marked, IFB-10-077, and submitted with one (1) original and three (3) copies to the PSS Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor of the NMI Retirement Fund Building in Capitol Hill, Saipan, no later than 10:00 a.m., local time, July 21, 2010. If no notices of intent to bid were received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be publicly opened at 10:00 a.m. local time July 23, 2010 in the 2nd floor Conference Room, NMI Retirement Fund Building.

Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to Bid. Notices of Intent to Bid must be received by the Procurement Officer no later than 10:00 a.m. local time on July 21, 2010 and may be transmitted via fax to (670) 664-3791 or email to [robert.florian@cnmipss.org](mailto:robert.florian@cnmipss.org). For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and three copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than July 21, 2010 and must be received no later than July 30, 2010 in which case all bids will be opened at 10:00 a.m., August 3, 2010.

**This project is funded under the AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT (ARRA) with "Buy America" Provisions.**

/s/ Rita A. Sablan, Ed. D.  
Commissioner of Education

/s/ Robert Florian  
Procurement Officer



# Cavaliers, Bulls cap meetings with LeBron



**CLEVELAND (AP)**—After three days being romanced by six NBA teams, a few billionaires, coaches, executives, hip hop's biggest star, and fixating the sports world on his every move, LeBron James got behind the wheel of his customized car and drove home.

Only he knows where he's going next. James concluded his personal free-agent summit on Saturday by hearing presentations from the Cleveland Cavaliers, whose pitch focused on his familiarity with their franchise and tickled his sense of humor, and the Chicago Bulls, the last team and the one believed to have the best chance of stealing him from Ohio.

The meetings are over.

The guessing game has begun.

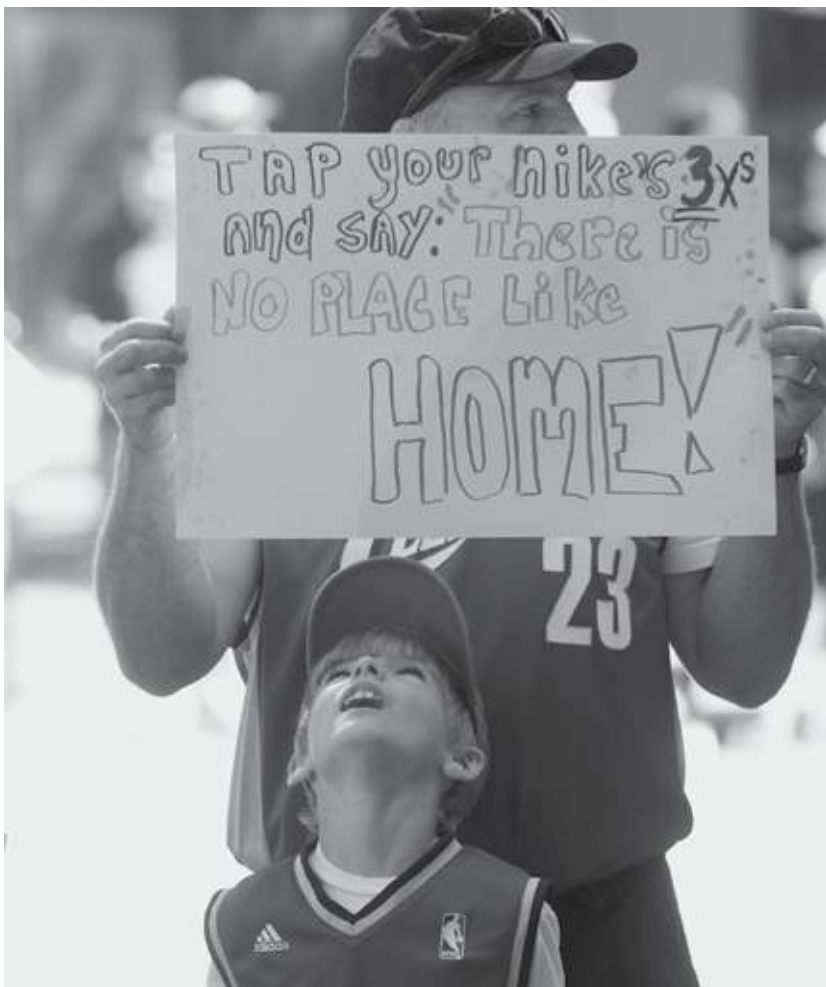
The ball is in James' court.

The Cavs came away from their 90-minute sit down with a renewed confidence that James will re-sign with them.

"It went very well," said a person with knowledge of Cleveland's visit, who spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity because of the sensitivity of the talks. "It was very easy, very relaxed. There were moments of emotion and moments of laughter."

Knowing James as well as they do, the Cavs, who were represented by owner Dan Gilbert, new coach Byron Scott, general manager Chris Grant and assistant GM Lance Blanks, tried to lighten things up by showing the 25-year-old a cartoon featuring him and his friends as characters.

The team had an animated video made in the style of "Family Guy"—one of James' favorite TV shows—that depicted some inside jokes and locker-room humor as the Cavaliers reminded James that he is indeed part of their extended family. James was joined in the meetings by business manager Maver-



Basketball fans Jim Stafford and his son Dylan, 6, of Gates Mills, Ohio, bide their time as they wait for free agent basketball player LeBron James to arrive at IMG headquarters, Saturday, July 3, 2010, for negotiating sessions with the Cleveland Cavaliers and later in the day with the Chicago Bulls.

ick Carter, close friend Randy Mims and agent Leon Rose.

The Cavs' entourage only had to make a three-block drive from Quicken Loans Arena to James' downtown business offices to make their homespun proposal to the mega free agent. Instead of making a national tour, James decided to have the New Jersey Nets, New York Knicks, Miami Heat, Los

Angeles Clippers, Cavs and Bulls meet him on his home turf. At this point, he has not other scheduled visits.

Indications are that James will spend the remainder of the holiday weekend considering the offers before announcing his decision sometime next week.

The Cavs did not ask James when he will announce his decision, the person said.

Because it's home, because they can offer him \$30 million more than any other team on a maximum-length contract, and because they've built a championship-caliber team around him, the Cavs feel good about their chances of keeping the two-time MVP.

Hoping to tug on James' heart strings, the Cavaliers organized a "fan tunnel" down East 9th Street to welcome him. Hundreds of fans lined the sidewalks outside the IMG building, and when James pulled into the parking garage, fans held up signs that said "Home" while others tossed white powder in the air, mimicking his pregame ritual.

As the Cavs departed, the Bulls' delegation arrived for their meeting—the last of the six scheduled teams to see James and his advisors.

Owner Jerry Reinsdorf, general manager Gar Forman, vice president of basketball operations John Paxson and new coach Tom Thibodeau showed up at 1:15 p.m. dressed business casual in sport coats. Unlike the other suitors, the Bulls did not cart any visual aids or equipment, and as the foursome made its way across the intersection, it looked like basketball's version of the Beatles on Abbey Road.

The Bulls stayed for three hours, one day after they sat down with Dwyane Wade for the second time since free agency opened. Chicago's group left in two black SUVs to a chorus of boos from the Cleveland fans who hung around while they were upstairs.

Chicago is hoping the chance to follow Michael Jordan's larger-than-life legacy, a talented roster featuring rising star guard Derrick Rose and forward Joakim Noah, and nearly \$30 million of space under the salary cap will be enough to lure James to the Windy City.

It's ironic that James would consider joining a team he knocked out of the playoffs last season. But he has said his

goal is to win multiple championships, and his addition to the Bulls would make Chicago among the top teams in the Eastern Conference.

With James as their leader, the Cavs made it to the playoffs in each of the past five years, including their first visit to the finals in 2007. But despite having the league's best regular-season record, they fell short of a title, losing this year to the Boston Celtics in the second round.

James has higher goals, and the Cavs share his vision.

"We've done some amazing things the last five years," Grant said. "We won a lot of games and went deep into the playoffs, but we're not satisfied with anything we're doing. We continue to make improvements and upgrade our roster as we move forward. This is the time of year we do those things."

"We think it's pretty incredible that LeBron chose to have these meetings here in Cleveland, at his home. We want to thank the fans for unbelievable support and support from our city. Very proud of that, and very proud of Northeast Ohio."

Cleveland fans, pained by decades of sports heartache and without a championship team to call their own since 1964, can't bear the thought of life without LeBron.

"Without him, we won't be anything," said 20-year-old Jordan Martin, who came to see James with his father and three brothers. "If he leaves, the team and the city won't be the same."

For others, this was one last chance to show James some love.

Tom and Jill Galmarini, who both grew up in Cleveland, made a 12-hour drive from Charleston, S.C., with their 1-year-old son, Riley, and 4-year-old daughter, Katie, to support James.

"I don't think he's going to go anywhere," Jill Galmarini. "I think he likes being in his hometown."

## Joyce grand slam helps Rays over Twins



**MINNEAPOLIS (AP)**—Matt Joyce's pinch-hit grand slam capped a seven-run eighth inning, rallying the Tampa Bay Rays to an 8-6 victory over the Minnesota Twins on Saturday.

The defeat spoiled a big day for Twins slugger Jim Thome. He homered twice to move past Hall of Famer Harmon Killebrew into 10th place on the career list, with 574.

### Yankees 11, Blue Jays 3

In New York, Brett Gardner hit his first career grand slam and Alex Rodriguez drove in four more runs during the Yankees' biggest offensive inning in five years, carrying New York to a rout of Toronto.

The high-powered Yankees scored 11 times during their 37-minute third inning, sending 15 batters to the plate. It was their most prolific outburst since scoring 13 times in the eighth against Tampa Bay in 2005.

### Rangers 3, White Sox 1

In Arlington, Tommy Hunter (5-0) allowed only one run in seven-plus innings to steer Texas past Chicago.

White Sox pinch-hitter Brent Lillibridge hit a leadoff double in the ninth but Neftali Feliz struck out pinch-hitter Carlos Quentin and Gordon Beckham for his 23rd save in 24 chances.

### Royals 4, Angels 2

In Anaheim, California, Bruce Chen retired his first 18 batters in a riveting duel with Ervin Santana, guiding Kansas City past Los Angeles.

Chen (5-2), a journeyman left-hander, allowed one run in 7 1-3 innings, and was aided by a pair of sensational defensive plays by centerfielder David DeJesus.

### Tigers 6, Mariners 1

In Detroit, Justin Verlander struck out 10 in seven strong innings to help Detroit down Seattle.

Verlander (10-5) struck out the side in the first and third and allowed just four baserunners in the first six innings. He allowed the only Seattle run in the seventh but averted further damage by getting Chone Figgins to ground out with the bases loaded.

### Red Sox 9, Orioles 3

In Boston, Jon Lester pitched seven strong innings to help Boston beat Baltimore, boosting his remarkable record against the Orioles.

Lester (10-3) is 12-0 against Baltimore in 15 starts. He gave up one run, striking out seven and walking just one in his 10th win in his past 11 decisions.

### Indians 5, Athletics 4

In Cleveland, Matt LaPorta hit a game-ending single in the 10th inning to lift

Cleveland over Oakland.

Travis Hafner started the rally with a one-out double off Craig Breslow (3-2). After Austin Kearns was intentionally walked, Jhonny Peralta flied out to deep center. LaPorta bounced a full-count pitch into center field, giving Cleveland its sixth win in seven games.

### Braves 4, Marlins 1

In Atlanta, Braves starter Tommy Hanson did not give up an earned run as he recovered from back-to-back ugly losses to steer the Braves to a win over the Florida Marlins.

Hanson (8-5) allowed an unearned run with eight strikeouts in 6 2-3 innings. His return to form came after he yielded a combined 15 runs in two straight losses while failing to complete the fourth inning in both starts.

### Giants 11, Rockies 8

In Denver, San Francisco tagged Ubaldo Jimenez for seven runs in the third inning, lost a big lead and then rallied against Colorado's beleaguered bullpen to snap a seven-game skid.

Struggling Rockies pitcher Manny Corpas (2-5) was charged with two runs in the seventh after the Rockies had fought back from a 7-1 deficit.

### Nationals 6, Mets 5

In Washington, Ivan Rodriguez capped

a three-run comeback in the ninth inning with an RBI single as Washington rallied to edge New York.

Trying to protect a 5-3 lead, Mets closer Francisco Rodriguez (2-2) opened the ninth by walking Cristian Guzman. Willie Harris' one-out single and a walk to Ryan Zimmerman loaded the bases.

### Cubs 3, Reds 1

In Chicago, Randy Wells took a no-hitter into the seventh inning to end his long losing streak as Chicago downed Cincinnati.

Wells' no-hit bid was broken up by Chris Heisey's leadoff single in the seventh. Wells escaped a jam with the help of a baserunning blunder by Heisey.

Wells (4-6), who lost his previous six decisions, struck out five and walked one for his first win in 11 starts.

### Brewers 12, Cardinals 5

In St. Louis, Rickie Weeks hit a leadoff homer to begin a miserable outing for St. Louis starter Chris Carpenter, and Milwaukee capitalized on shaky Cardinals defense.

Carpenter (9-2) failed to retire any of the four batters he faced in the fourth. He was charged with eight runs — seven earned — in his shortest outing this season.

### Padres 1, Astros 0

In San Diego, Aaron Cunningham doubled leading off the eighth inning and scored on reliever Gustavo

Chacin's throwing error to give San Diego its second straight shutout over Houston.

Kevin Correia had his best start in more than a month but didn't get the decision because the Padres' offense didn't show up until he was out of the game. Houston had six hits and San Diego five.

### Dodgers 14, Diamondbacks 1

In Phoenix, a franchise-record six Arizona errors, three by shortstop Tony Abreu, cleared the way for a rout by Los Angeles in an exceedingly ugly second game for Kirk Gibson as Diamondbacks interim manager.

First baseman Rusty Ryal had two errors and third baseman Mark Reynolds one as the Dodgers scored eight unearned runs, six in the second inning.

### Phillies 12, Pirates 4

In Pittsburgh, Ryan Howard picked up Philadelphia's slumping offense by driving in three runs as Philadelphia shook off a three-game losing streak to rout Pittsburgh.

Jimmy Rollins homered among his three hits and Shane Victorino also had three hits, including a triple.

Pittsburgh shortstop Bobby Crosby's error on a seemingly routine double-play grounder led to a breakout five-run third inning—as many runs as injury-depleted Philadelphia scored in its previous three games.



# Armstrong starts strong in last Tour



**ROTTERDAM, Netherlands** (AP)—Lance Armstrong could hardly have imagined a better start to what he's calling his last Tour de France.

The Texan placed an impressive fourth in the short opening time trial, shrugging off renewed doping allegations to dust several other likely podium contenders as well as edge rival Alberto Contador, the defending champion and prerace favorite.

Swiss rider Fabian Cancellara, the world and Olympic time trial champion, collected a fourth Tour prologue win and second in a row, clocking 10 minutes even for the 5.5-mile ride on rain-dampened roads in Rotterdam.

Armstrong trailed 22 seconds back in fourth. Perhaps most impressively, the American bested Contador by 5 seconds.

The American's solid performance was almost certain to brighten spirits within the RadioShack team on a day that started with new claims by former teammate Floyd Landis that the seven-time Tour champ was once involved in doping.

The 38-year-old sought to focus on the racing.

"In my heart, that was a surprise," Armstrong said. "I wanted to have a decent day in the time trial, and I was not the best out there today."

"But among the (general classification) rivals, I have to say it was the best one I've done since the comeback," Armstrong said, referring to his Tour return last year after a 3-year hiatus.

Some potential Tour title contenders were already facing disappointment: Britain's Bradley Wiggins, an Olympic gold medalist and strong time-trial rider who was fourth in last year's Tour, was 77th overall—56 seconds behind Cancellara.

Andy Schleck, who finished second in last year's Tour—one rung above Armstrong on the podium—placed 112th, 1:09 back of his Saxo Bank teammate and race leader.

Armstrong came into the time trial predicting he wouldn't win it, saying that he's "lost it" in the discipline—one that he had dominated in his record run of Tour titles from 1999 to 2005.

But he rode aggressively Saturday, only slowing at one point to take a tight turn—a sign that above all he wanted to avoid a crash that could damage or derail his hopes for an eighth Tour victory.

"I gotta say I'm happy: Happy with the result, happy with the feelings, which is maybe more important than the result," he said. "Everything from the start of the day through to the warm-up just felt solid."

"If you would have told me this morning: 'Hey, sign up for fifth (sic) and put time on your rivals,' I would have signed with both hands."

Before the stage, the Texan rejected as "baseless and already-discredited" claims by Landis that he was involved in doping when they rode together. Landis' allegations, which followed similar comments he went public with in May, were published Saturday in the Wall Street Journal.

"Landis' credibility is like a carton of sour milk: once you take the first sip, you don't have to drink the rest to know it has all gone bad," Armstrong



Seven-time Tour de France winner Lance Armstrong strains to take a fourth place during the prologue of the Tour de France cycling race, an individual time trial over 8.9 kilometers (5.5 miles) in the port city of Rotterdam, Netherlands, Saturday, July 3, 2010.

said in a statement.

The cancer survivor also said he had "too much work to do" during the event to devote attention to "this predictable pre-Tour sensationalism."

After the prologue, Armstrong declined to address the issue that dates back years. "No comment. It's been 10 years. Ten years. No. We gave the reaction this morning."

Also before the start, Cervelo Test-Team said rider Xavier Florencio was suspended from competing for using a substance that contained banned stimulant Ephedrine—fearing it could lead to a positive doping test.

Riders set off one by one down the starter's ramp for the race against the clock. Contador went last—right after Cancellara and Armstrong.

They took a looping course over and back across the Meuse River that cuts through Europe's largest port town, scaling three bridges including the distinctive Erasmus suspension bridge.

Fairly persistent rain left the roads shiny-wet, and bikes sizzled and spit as they cut through the water. Large crowds braved the wet weather under colorful ponchos along the route.

Contador, who is gunning for a third Tour victory, said he was happy with his prologue by gaining time on most of his major rivals—if not Armstrong.

The Spaniard acknowledged that he "failed to catch the rhythm that I like," but added, "It's better to lose a few seconds than to risk a fall."

He played down his deficit to Armstrong as "minor" in the overall race.

The only other time trial this year is a 32-mile jaunt across southwestern France in Stage 19—on the eve of the finish on the Champs-Élysées in Paris on July 25.

But the layout also features a total of 23 mountain passes in the Alps and Pyrenees, which plays to Contador's strength as a climber.

Cancellara will don the race leader's yellow jersey for Sunday's 138.9-mile first stage across wind-swept lowlands from Rotterdam to Brussels.

"That was a great opening for me and the team," Cancellara said, referring to his Danish squad Saxo Bank. "It's an amazing day. I'm really happy."

Germany's Tony Martin, who had led for most of the day, was second, 10 seconds back, and David Millar of Britain placed third—20 seconds off the pace.

The victory was another vindication for Cancellara, who has been at the center of speculation that he benefited from a small motor hidden in his bike frame during the Paris-Roubaix race he won this year.

Cancellara has called the claims ridiculous, and they have not been proven true.

Video detailing the speculation has been a viral hit on the Internet, and partly to dampen the speculation, the International Cycling Union is scanning competitors' bikes at this Tour to check for hidden motors.

"After they checked my bike, I said, 'You should also check the motor: Me!'" Cancellara quipped.

## Rose builds another big lead

**NEWTOWN SQUARE, Pa.** (AP)—Justin Rose asked himself some tough, honest questions last week after he blew a three-shot lead in the final round. He hopes to find the right answers in the AT&T National.

With some big par saves in the middle of his round and one last birdie toward the end, Rose shot a 3-under 67 on Saturday to build a four-shot lead over Carl Pettersson (65) and Charlie Wi (70) going into the final round at tough Aronimink Golf Club.

That's one shot more than the lead he blew last week in the Travelers Championship, a bad day that Rose is determined not to turn into a bad memory.

"If you're sitting at the top of the leaderboard, it seems like it's yours to lose," Rose said. "That's why a golf tournament is 72 holes. The lead really doesn't mean much until you close it out. I just know that tomorrow I have a great opportunity again, but I'm more excited about the opportunity of putting into play the lessons I've learned in Hartford than actually going out and winning the golf tournament."

Tiger Woods only gets into contention in the majors these days. In his final tournament before the British Open, he again is out of the mix on Sunday. Woods recovered from an atrocious start with an even-par 70, putting him 13 shots behind.

This will be his seventh tournament without a victory on the PGA Tour, his longest drought since he went 16 straight tournaments in 2004 when he was going through a swing change. The only good news for the tournament is that the massive crowd that followed him around in the morning did not leave Aronimink.

They still were treated to some good golf.

It was the sixth time in his last eight rounds that Rose was atop the leaderboard. Now he gets to try something new. Despite his great run over the last month, Rose has never won a PGA Tour event when leading after 54 holes.

The test figures to come as much from Aronimink as the players behind him.

"It's tougher to go low around here," said Rose, one of only two players to have broken par all three rounds. "It's easier to go higher. It's an interesting test. But it suits good golf. It's tough to find the birdies. I've just got to keep playing solid."

Rose was at 10-under 200, the only player to reach double digits under par this week on one of the toughest PGA Tour tracks this year.

Wi was one shot behind until taking four shots from just inside 25 feet on the 14th, the last three putts from 6 feet.

"This is course is not like last week where you have to make tons of birdies," Wi said. "You could be 1 or 2 over, or you could be 2 or 3 under. That changes the momentum, so we'll see how it goes tomorrow."

I know 1 or 2 under sounds really easy, but this golf course is definitely not easy."

Rose certainly is not expecting anything to be easy, even with a four-shot lead. He found that out the hard way in Hartford, closing with a 75 in a final round when the rest of the field averaged about 69.

But the 29-year-old Englishman isn't thinking about Hartford. He's not even thinking about the Memorial last month, when he rallied from four shots behind to win his first PGA Tour title.

"I didn't go into Hartford thinking, 'You just won, keep it going.' And I didn't come into this week thinking, 'You've just blown a win.' I'm just coming into each week seeing it as a new challenge," Rose said.

Pettersson started 90 minutes earlier and made only one mistake, a bogey on the par-3 eighth, in his round of 65. He was joined by Wi, who saw firsthand how quickly everything can change at Aronimink.

Wi was one shot behind until Rose hit a 9-iron the right distance, the ball crawling up the slope to 4 feet for a birdie on the 13th.

Then came the troublesome 14th, a par 3 with the pin tucked in the right corner. Wi, playing in the group ahead of Rose, made double bogey. Rose was in worse shape, in nasty rough behind the green, and even as he tried to play safe away from the hole, he still went into deep rough on the other side. He chopped out to 4 feet and escaped with bogey.

"That was the only emotion I showed all day, with a fist pump," Rose said, grinning. "And that was for bogey."

He got that shot back with his second straight birdie on the par-3 17th.

Jeff Overton, who also has three straight rounds in the 60s, birdied the 18th hole for a 69 and was at 5-under 205. Ryan Moore (69) and Jason Day of Australia (72) were another shot behind.

Woods made Saturday morning feel like Sunday afternoon.

Having made the cut on the number, he teed off at 9 a.m. before thousands of fans who followed him around Aronimink and were treated to some stunning shots—with Woods, that can be anything these days.

He twice made bogey with a wedge in his hand from the middle of the fairway, including a shot he chunked so badly that it only went 59 yards without reaching the green. Woods also hit some lasers on the par 3s, nearly making an ace on the tough eighth hole, and hit his driver longer than he has all year.

All that matters is the score, however, and his 70 put him in a tie for 47th.

"I was trying to be patient, trying to pick my spots, and I just kept making mistake after mistake," Woods said.



# Top 40's, Easy Does It reign in Liberation caging



Members of the 40A division champion Top 40's and volunteers for the Liberation Day masters caging pose for a group photo after the tournament last Saturday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium. Top 40's won over Easy Does It, 99-61.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
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REPORTER

**E a s t**  
Does It and Top 40's recorded contrasting wins to rule the Liberation Day Fund-raiser Tournament played over the weekend at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Easy Does It reigned in the 35A division after edging Ebisuya, 79-77, while Top 40's took the 40A division crown, following a 99-61 rout of Easy Does It.

Ray Lizama and Edgar Pangelinan teamed up in Easy Does It's title win in the 35A division, firing 21 and 19 points, respectively. Lizama scored four of the last seven points of Easy Does It to foil Ebisuya's repeated comeback bids. Pangelinan's split free throw and a bucket from Oscar Masga in the closing seconds of the match also helped Easy Does It's cause.

Jun Tabora paced Ebisuya with 26 markers, while Ernie Moises and George Masga

had 13 apiece, and Ed Yalung chipped in 13. Ebisuya played with only seven players and lost steam catching up with Easy Does It.

Despite its handicap, Ebisuya kept paced with Easy Does It in the first half, with the latter leading by only three at the break, 46-43.

Bruce Berline scored Easy Does It's first three baskets, while Pangelinan knocked down three treys and Lizama ended the first half with a triple of his own for the team's three-

point cushion.

Tabora took the cudgels for Ebisuya, scoring eight straight markers at one point in the first half and ending up with 16 points.

Tabora then slowed down at the start of the second half, while Berline, Lizama, and Pangelinan continued to join forces for Easy Does It to keep the lead. Tabora tried picking up his scoring in the latter part of the second half, as Ebisuya repeatedly threatened Easy Does It.

However, timely baskets from Lizama and Pangelinan saved the day for Easy Does It.

In the second championship game, Top 40' foiled an Easy Does It sweep of the Liberation caging after cruising to a

38-point win.

Majority of Easy Does It's players played in the first game and ran out of gas against the fresher and well-rested Top 40's in the second title tiff.

Top 40's had the game in the bag as early as in the first half when it led, 46-30.

George Masga and Jack Diaz exploded for 36 and 30 markers, respectively, while Tony Diaz contributed 13.

Pangelinan top-scored for Easy Does It with 24 and the second highest scorer for the team—Ray Perez—tallied only 10.

The Masters Basketball Federation of the NMI organized the weekend tournament in celebration of the Liberation Day.

## First Game

**Easy Does It 79** – Lizama 21, E. Pangelinan 19, Berline 13, Masga 8, Atalig 7, Plinske 3, Abuan 2, Norman 2.

**Ebisuya 77** – Tabora 26, Moises 13, Masga 13, Yalung 11, Santos 9.

**Scoring by halves:** 46-43, 79-77.

## Second Game

**Top 40's 99** – G. Masga 36, J. Diaz 30, T. Diaz 13, Pineda 10, Masga 8, Palacios 4.

**Easy Does It 61** – E. Pangelinan 24, Perez 10, Berline 8, Atalig 7, Norman 6, Vergara 6.

**Scoring by halves:** 46-30, 99-61.

## SERENA

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row at Wimbledon, where she also was champion in 2002-03. Williams and her older sister Venus have won nine of the past 11 titles at the grass-court Grand Slam tournament.

"Everywhere we look, there's another Wimbledon trophy," Williams said, rolling her eyes. "I'm, like, 'Ugh, not one of those again.'"

Williams was kidding, of course. Maybe she also was joking when she said Friday that she'd prepare for the final by relaxing and watching the TV show "Desperate Housewives." In the end, her victory over Zvonareva lasted only slightly longer than an episode—67 minutes—and was rather short on drama.

Both women hit the ball with plenty of force from the baseline, and both grunted loudly, the noise reverberating through the arena. After 21 minutes, they were tied at 3-all. Zvonareva was hanging in there despite being the second-lowest-ranked woman to play in a Wimbledon final.

Then, turning it on, Williams

reeled off eight of the next nine games to seize complete control and add to her collection of championships, which includes five Australian Opens, three U.S. Opens and one French Open. She brings her best when it counts the most: Her only other title of 2010 came at the Australian Open in January; she was sidelined all of February, March and April with a left knee injury.

Margaret Smith Court leads the way with 24 major titles, followed by Steffi Graf with 22, Helen Wills Moody with 19, and Martina Navratilova and Chris Evert with 18 apiece.

So where does Williams rank among the best women's tennis players through the years?

"Top five," answered Navratilova, without a moment's hesitation. "It's not just about how many Slams you win or how many tournaments you win—it's just your game overall. And she's definitely got all the goods. It would have been fun to play her, but at the same time, I'm glad that I didn't have to."

Of all her skills, Williams' serve is the most impressive. Growing up in Compton, Calif., she found practicing serves

so boring that she and Venus would chat when their father's back was turned, then resume hitting balls when he'd check on them.

Navratilova, who watched the final from a front-row seat, called Williams' serve "astonishing," the best ever for a woman.

Williams pounded serves at up to 122 mph and hit nine aces Saturday, taking her tournament total to a Wimbledon-record 89, 17 more than the mark she established last year. It's not simply about speed; Williams varies angles, spins, spots.

"She always changes it," Zvonareva said.

Williams never faced a break point and won 31 of 33 points when her first serve went in. She double-faulted three times, but followed each of the first two with an ace. Zvonareva also pointed out that because Williams knows she's successful holding serve, she returns more aggressively.

Indeed, Williams broke Zvonareva three times, including to go up 5-3 by curling a forehand passing winner on the run, then dropping to her right knee and raising a fist.

## SPORTS

From Page 28

showed some football drills and techniques.

The Rollers Basketball Club was the first sports group to parade along Beach Road. In attendance during the parade were members of the various age group teams of head coach Joe Diaz.

Diaz's wards had been to the

Liberation Day parade, as the group promotes not only basketball, but also involvement in community activities.

After the Rollers, it was NMBA's turn to walk along Beach Road with the latter bringing around 20 members at the parade.

NMBA official Hapi Gabriel said yesterday's parade was their second time and it was another great experience for the group.

"Last year, we had less than 10 members, but today (yesterday), we had more. We want to be part of the Liberation Day parade every year. It's our way of showing support to community events and promoting badminton on Saipan," Gabriel said.

Like NMIFA players, NMBA members also displayed badminton drills to thousands of spectators who withstood the exhausting heat to witness the three-hour parade.

## GERMANY

From Page 28

the third person to win the tournament both as a player and coach.

Thomas Mueller gave Germany an early lead in Cape Town, and Miroslav Klose scored two second-half goals either side of Arne Friedrich's simple tap-in as the Germans scored four goals for the third time this tournament.

"What the team showed, it was not only international level, but the level of champions," Germany coach Joachim Loew said. "It was absolute class."

Klose's two goals in his 100th international gives him 14 total World Cup scores, putting him level with fellow German Gerd Mueller on the all-time list. Brazil's Ronaldo tops the list with 15, but Klose will have two more games at this tournament to surpass him.

In the other quarterfinal in Johannesburg, Villa's tournament-leading fifth goal took Spain to its first World Cup semifinal after both teams had missed penalties over a three-minute period in the second half.

Villa collected the ball inside the area after teammate Pedro Rodriguez had hit the post, and curled a shot that struck the far post and then the near post before crossing the line in the 83rd minute.

Spain goalkeeper Iker Casillas saved a 59th-minute penalty by Oscar Cardozo. Paraguay captain Justo Villar repeated the feat two minutes later, but only after Xabi Alonso had to retake an initially successful kick because of encroachment by several teammates.

Spain meets Germany in Durban on Wednesday, the team it beat in the 2008 European Championship final.

"Quite apart from their results, the Germans are playing brilliant-

ly, so they must be tremendously motivated," Spain midfielder Andres Iniesta said. "It will be a game between two rivals who enjoy having the ball and I think it will be a beautiful battle."

Argentina entered the game with perhaps the tournament's most potent attacking lineup, but neither Lionel Messi, Carlos Tevez or Gonzalo Higuain managed to break down the compact wall of German defenders.

Instead it was Argentina's defense that repeatedly cracked as all three of Germany's second-half goals came on well-constructed counter attacks.

After Mueller's third-minute header, Klose added a simple tap-in in the 68th minute. Friedrich then raced from defense to strike home the third in the 74th, and Klose added his second in the 89th.

"The first cross produced a goal, and suddenly we were looking at a different game," a devastated Maradona said.

"They took advantage of all their chances," Maradona gave no indication about whether he would resign.

The lopsided result was a marked contrast from 2006, when Germany won a penalty shootout following a tense 1-1 draw. That game ended in a brawl after the shootout, but this time Maradona and the Argentina players simply walked off the field with their shoulders slumped.

Most of Africa, meanwhile, was still trying to get over Ghana's loss against Uruguay on Friday, after the last African country in the tournament missed a penalty in the final seconds of extra time before losing a shootout.

Ghana was on the verge of becoming the first African nation to reach the World Cup semifinals, but Asamoah Gyan sent his spot kick onto the crossbar after Uruguay striker Luis Suarez had swatted away Dominic Adiyiah's goal-bound head-

er with both hands. After the 1-1 draw, the South Americans won 4-2 on penalties.

In a statement, South Africa's governing African National Congress said it was impressed by Ghana's performance, saying it proved Africans were capable of playing at the highest level.

"We are also very confident that the lessons learnt from this tournament will put Africa in a better position for the next World Cup in Brazil," said the ANC, which had urged South Africans to support Ghana after South Africa became the first host nation eliminated in group play.

Away from the pitch, Colombian authorities have found a World Cup trophy made out of cocaine.

Airports anti-drug chief Col. Jose Piedrahita says the 36-centimeter-high (14-inch-high) statue was found during a routine security check by anti-drug agents on Friday in

a mail warehouse at Bogota's international airport.

Piedrahita said Saturday that laboratory tests confirmed the cup was made of 11 kilograms (24 pounds) of cocaine mixed with acetone or gasoline to make it moldable.

Also late on Friday, American socialite Paris Hilton had to appear in court in Port Elizabeth after being arrested on suspicion of possession of marijuana following the Brazil-Netherlands game. The court dropped the charges against Hilton after her co-accused, Jennifer Rovero, "acknowledged to be in possession of cannabis, and pleaded guilty," said Brig. Sally De Beer, a spokeswoman for South African police.

Rovero, 31, from New York, was sentenced to a fine of 1,000 rand (\$130) or 30 days imprisonment, De Beer said.

A publicist for Hilton said the incident was a "misunderstanding."



# Weekend Sports

**L**ast week's headlines gave the sports community a glimpse of the CNMI's bets in the 7th Micronesian Games in Palau.

In women's basketball, the CNMI is likely to have no off-island recruits, leaving veteran Connie Camacho the tough task to defend the gold medal in Palau. Joining Camacho on the CNMI Women's National Team are Lia Rangamar, Lena Guzman, Jeralyn Castillo, Ira Palero Lalaine Pagarao, Jenequa Benavente, Yvonne Bennett, Jamie Mendoza, Jacque Wonenberg, Lily Williams, and Dion Diaz. Samoana Ingram, Pearl Palacios, Ngirchongor, and Chelsea Ruloked, who are all off-

## A peek at CNMI's hopes in Micro Games

By **ROSELYN B. MONROYO**  
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REPORTER

island, are listed in the roster submitted to Palau, but are unlikely to make the trip due to various reasons.

In the medal rich swimming, the CNMI will have 13 entries to be led by 2006 Micro Games gold medalists Rezne Wong and Amanda Johnson. Completing the squad are Junior Pamaran, Michael Moran, Andrew and Grace Kimball, Keanna Villagomez, Victoria Chentsova, Kai Staal, and Kensuke and Shin Kimura.

In tennis, Jeff Race will be a player and coach for the CNMI and will be teaming up with Todd Montgomery, Bobby Cruz, Peter Loyola, Mayuko Arriola, Jodel Fernandez, Lydia Tan, and Kana Aikawa.

In baseball, Justin Alexander was one of the two off-island players listed in the CNMI roster. Alexander signed on to play NCAA Division I baseball in the Ohio Valley Conference for the Tennessee Technological University

Golden Eagles. Alexander and 17 others will be defending the gold medal the CNMI won against Guam in the Micro Games in 2006.

Meanwhile, ongoing leagues on Saipan continued with the CNMI Men's Nationals keeping a perfect 4-0 record in the Budweiser caging and the Sonics and Kagman 1-2-3 winning separate games in the U18 division of the UBA caging.

Still in basketball, Top 40's and Easy

Does It ruled the Liberation Day masters caging, while the CNMI Men's Nationals booted out McGraw-Hill in the Micro Games Fundraising Basketball Tournament.

In another fundraising event for the Micro Games, the Slammers swept their way to the championship of the 2010 Let's Go to Palau Rocball Tournament played at the Marianas High School Gymnasium. The Slammers won the best-of-five title series of the fundraiser against Turrak' Mak'tao, 3-0.

In other events, Andrew Kimball topped the 2010 Escape from Managaha, while Ruselle Zapanta, Elena Soll, and M.J. Aldan prevailed in the Saipan Bowling Association June roll-off.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Rezne Wong will lead the CNMI swimming team to the 7th Micronesian Games in Palau.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

The CNMI Nationals' Jack Lizama, center, goes for a shot against two Ol'Aces defenders during their game in the Budweiser caging last week at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Referees and table officials for the Liberation Day masters caging pose for a group photo after the tournament last Saturday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

From left, Manny Sitchon, Joshua Berger, and Mamiko Berger, emerge out of the water during the 2010 Escape from Managaha.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Members of the 35A division champion Easy Does and volunteers for the Liberation Day masters caging pose for a group photo after the tournament last Saturday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium. Easy Does It beat Ebisuya, 79-77.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Connie Camacho, seen here in action in the CNMI women's league, will lead the Commonwealth's Women's Nationals to the 7th Micronesian Games in Palau.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Justin Alexander is one of the off-island players who will represent the CNMI to the 7th Micronesian Games in Palau.





## Serena wins 4th Wimbledon, 13th major

By HOWARD FENDRICH  
AP TENNIS WRITER

**W**IMBLEDON, Eng-land (AP)—Getting set to accept her latest Wimbledon trophy, Serena Williams lifted both arms and held aloft 10 fingers. Then, raising only her right hand, she wiggled three more fingers, bringing the total count to 13.

That's how many Grand Slam singles titles Williams owns as of Saturday.

"I thought, 'I hope I got the number right,'" she said. "You know me: I tend to forget."

That's OK, Serena. The way you're accumulating championships, it's tough to keep track.

With a superb serve that had other greats of the game gushing, and plenty of offense and defense to back it up, the No. 1-ranked Williams over-

whelmed No. 21 Vera Zvonareva of Russia 6-3, 6-2 in Saturday's final to win her fourth Wimbledon title and, yes, 13th major tournament overall.

That's the most among active women and gives Williams sole possession of sixth place on the all-time list, breaking a tie with her former U.S. Fed Cup captain, Billie Jean King. Addressing King, who was in the front row of the Royal Box, Williams said: "Hey, Billie, I got you! This is No. 13 for me now. It's just amazing to be able to be among such great people."

The American did not drop a set over two dominant weeks at the All England Club.

She's won five of the last eight Grand Slam tournaments, including two in a row.

See **SERENA** on Page 26



Serena Williams of the United States holds her trophy aloft after defeating Russia's Vera Zvonareva during their women's singles final at the All England Lawn Tennis Championships at Wimbledon, Saturday, July 3, 2010.

## Sports groups join Liberation Day parade



NMIFA players, who had had their faces spray-painted with flags of countries entered in the 2010 FIFA World Cup, join the Liberation Day parade yesterday along Beach Road.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
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REPORTER

Football clubs brought the World Cup spirit on Saipan when their members waved and spray-painted their faces with flags of the participating nations in the South Africa event during the Liberation Day parade yesterday.

Matansa Football Club, MP United, and Tan Holdings Football Club represented Northern Mariana Islands Football Association in the annual parade, which also had two other sports organizations—Northern Marianas Badminton Association and Rollers Basketball Club—joining the festivities.

NMIFA and its member clubs started the parade with three players/coaches holding an imitation of the World Cup golden trophy. Then came the giant football, followed by players and coaches of the three various clubs.

Once in front of the makeshift stage in Garapan, several players

See **SPORTS** on Page 26

## Four returnees banner baseball team

By WALTER SUTHERLAND  
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REPORTER



Only four players from the 2006 CNMI National Baseball Team will return to defend its gold medal in the 2010 Palau Micronesian Games set from Aug. 1 to 10 in Koror.

Saipan Major League over the weekend released the lean 18-member national team and it includes 6th Micronesian Games veterans Tyrone Omar, Manny Sablan, Jester Garcia, and Jess Mesa.

Omar will play the outfield, while Sablan will occupy his familiar place behind the batter's box catching for Team CNMI. Garcia and Mesa will be in the infield.

Expected to back-up Sablan is Eric Tenorio, while other infielders selected are Ryan Ada, Mike Pangelinan, Anthony Tenorio, and Shane Yamada.

Pitching staff will be led by Tennessee Technological University mainstay Justin Alexander; along with Vince Cepeda, Franco Flores, Jason Hayes, Thomas Joab, Shane Mendiola, Vince Sablan, and Elton Santos. Manning the outfield are Jesus Iguel, Alexander, Cepeda, Santos, Hayes, Eric Tenorio, and Anthony Tenorio.



Omar



Garcia



Sablan

Alexander and Garcia are the team's only two components from the U.S. mainland as Jonathan Salas, who was previously reported as making the team, was not officially listed.

In the 2006 Micronesian Games that took place here on Saipan at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield, the CNMI National Baseball Team defeated Guam, 3-2, to win their first gold medal in baseball in front of an estimated crowd of 5,000.

NMASA Hall of Fame inductee Tony Rogolifoi will act as team manager, while Patrick Tenorio and Craig Tenorio will serve as coach and assistant coach, respectively.

## Germany beats Argentina to reach World Cup semis



Germany's Mesut Ozil, left, and Germany's Lukas Podolski, right, celebrate following the World Cup quarterfinal soccer match between Argentina and Germany at the Green Point stadium in Cape Town, South Africa, Saturday, July 3, 2010.

MATTIAS KAREN  
AP SPORTS WRITER



**JOHANNESBURG** (AP)—Germany's disciplined defense and clinical counter attacks earned a convincing 4-0 win over

Argentina on Saturday to set up a World Cup semifinal against Spain, which needed a late goal from David Villa to beat Paraguay 1-0.

Germany repeated history by beating Argentina in the quarterfinals for the second World Cup in a row, ruining Diego Maradona's bid to become

See **GERMANY** on Page 26